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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

THE OUT-DOOR GIRL.

What if the merry maiden goes a riding
On the wheel,
And wears a graceful costume that is
short above the heel?
Can any one gainsay it, that though
changed in mode of dress,
She's of gender feminine and not a whit
the less?
And if she dons the bloomer or the
knickerbocker clothes,
Is not her person just as sweet as any
blooming rose?

What if a college maiden rows a shell or
sculls with oar,
Or takes a goal in foot ball field or bowls
upon the floor,
Is she any less a woman, if her skin is
very brown,
Than when she trailed her skirts in mud
and wore a high-necked gown?
And if she boxes out her foe or fences
like a man,
Lacks she any fascination, whate'er her
scheme or plan?

So far as all experience of men with women goes,
For every ten of marriages nine have been full of woes.
The very latest woman, with her muscles, brains or pluck,
May bring new joys to wedded life and give us better luck.

Of one thing I am certain from the widest range of view,
Old-fashioned types must stand aside and make way for the new.
Thank heaven for the change that's come and fascinating fads;
For me, the merry out-door girl who emulates the lads.

—The American Wheelman.

A LITTLE TRAITOR.

Say! My grampa had some breeches,
Yep, he had,
In that church 'crost there he preaches,
Oh, be glad!
And he hung them in the garret,
Where there's rats and a stuffed parrot,
'Cause they lacked some dozen stitches.
They were bad.

They were stamped upon the bosom,
Yep, they were,
That's a something, if you use 'em,
'Twill occur;
And the stamps were big and healthy,
Nothin' small, ner mean, ner stealthy;
Sister Gladys said they grew some,
Seemed to her.

Now, dear Gladys is my sister,
And she's square,
But I'll have to tell you, mister—
Now, don't swear—
For she took those velvet breeches,
And with lots o' tucks and stitches—
Oh-h-h! She'd ten me to a blister
If she'd hear.

Yep, she took those musty breeches,
Don't you see?
Cut them off, with laughs and screeches,
At the knee,
Caught them up—the way is simple—
Sewed them so they form a dimple
Where the patches on the breeches
Used to be.

Them's her lovely bloomers, mister,
Yep, they're real;
When I see you wheel with sister
I just feel
Like I'd get the laughing cramps,
'Front them breeches and them stamps,
Ha-ha! I saw you when you kissed her,
There's her wheel!

—Chicago Record.

BABY.

A baby? Nothing strange, I once had said.
But mine! My baby! Therein lies the joy.
No pen of woman new or single maid
Can tell the charms and graces of my boy.
Mine own! My darling—yet not all mine own;
For when his laughing face looks up at me,
No more—as once—the day light hours seem lone,
For there his father's smiling eyes I see!

—Woman.

Miscellany.

LOVER OR FEATHERS.

A Mediæval Florentine Tale Has a Modern Moral.

There is a story in the December Harper's which illustrates the absolute futility of a man's attempt to interfere in the domain of feminine dress. The story is told by Thomas Wharton, and concerns a Florentine love episode of the time of the Lorenzo Medici. The hero cherished a Dantean or Petrarchan affection for a noble lady. To her he addressed sonnets; for her he did great deeds. For six years he played the part of perfect lover, as worshipful at the end as at the beginning. Then one day she told him that he might claim a reward at her hands. He had a poet's soul. He loved tenderness and he loathed to see his lady decked with the feathers of birds. He begged her, as a boon, to cease wearing them, and deep was her disgust and prompt her expression of it.

Then, as the result of a plot, he being a friend of the Medicis, was cast into a dungeon, where he had time to meditate on Madonna Ghita's capriciousness and heartlessness, and his heart returned from its poetic wanderings after her as after a star to his wife Francesca. He was released from prison and went to her, and her joy was great at his safety, and she forgave him his poet's truant fancy. Then he noticed that she, too, wore the feathers and he begged her to give them up. And then the storm that she had denied his coldness and his fickleness burst forth, and right soundly did the wifely Francesca berate her lord that he should dare dictate to her concerning her apparel.

The moral of the Florentine tale is not stated.

SMILES FROM "JUDGE."

His Only Objection.

"I love to hear you talk, my dear," said Mr. Bickers to his wife, when she paused to take breath at the end of the second column of a train lecture, "but your volubility is really a reflection on my wisdom."

"How so?"

"Because a word to the wise is sufficient."

A Chemical Mystery.

Young wife—Before we were married you said you didn't use tobacco in any form.

Young husband—I don't; these are cigarettes.

Motherly Intuition.

Mrs. Gushus (to Mrs. Slambang, whose daughter has been recently married)—"How are Amantha and her husband getting along in New York?

Mrs. Slambang—Wretchedly, I fear; poorly, I am certain. She writes that she is imperfectly happy—but it is just like my poor darling to try and shield the wretch that way. But, no! she cannot deceive her own mother, no—far from it. I leave for New York to-morrow, to see things righted or know the reason why.

Under the New Rules.

"What d' yer do wid der Goosehill team yisterday, Jimmy?"

"Dey wussen't in it fer a minnit; we won by 21 points. Dey had six black eyes, t'ree sprained ankles, two dislocated jaws, lost ten teeth, one ear, had eight bloody noses, an' t'irty-two goose-eggs on der noodles, which makes 62. We only had t'ree bad eyes, four sprains, one tore ear, two broken noses, six missin' teeth an' 25 goose-eggs, wid a total of it."

A Settlement.

Mr. Jackson (placing the engagement ring upon her finger)—Wif all mah worldly goods I dee endow.

Miss Snowflaik (coyly)—Doan't yo' be so hasty, Gawge; we ain' mahried yit.

Mr. Jackson—Nebber yo' mine, honey. Dat ring's all I's got, anyways.

No Middle Names.

The fact that in the old Puritan days in New England it was rare for a man to have more than two names, his surname and a Christian name, has been noted in a recent search of old records in Maine. In York, Me., during the first quarter of the last century, out of more than 1,600 records of births, there is only one where the child received two given names. Extra names were useless adornments, and an abomination to the plain people of those times and places.—New York Sun.

HE GOT JUSTICE.

A Certain Captain Who Secured the Same in Tunis Fashion.

A certain captain once left Marseilles for China, but being buffeted by the winds, made for the harbor of Tunis to await better weather. The collector of the port came on board, and, although the captain stated that he was freighted for Canton, and had nothing to do with Tunis, the collector succeeded in proving to him that he must pay his harbor dues.

Captain B—— did so, but instantly repaired to the palace of Bey and demanded justice.

"Good Frank," said the Bey, "I am your friend. What do you want?"

"Highness," answered the captain, "your custom house has robbed me. I had to pay unjustly."

"Excellent individual," answered the Bey, "in this country when we have the money, we keep it. The first acquisition is a difficulty, but to give back a thing is unknown in Africa."

"Shall I not have justice then?"

"Certainly you shall; every one has justice in Tunis. Will you have it in French or Tunis fashion?"

"French justice, never! I am in a hurry."

"So be it, then," replied the Bey. "What is your cargo?"

"Marseilles soap and 20,000 cotton caps."

"It is well; go away and be tranquil."

The Bey then summoned his Vizer. "Vizer," he said, "we love justice; we love the Franks. Proclaim that every Hebrew who appears out of doors to-morrow without a cotton cap will have a little transaction to settle with me."

There were some thousands of Hebrews in Tunis, and there was not a single cotton cap. The unfortunate men were preparing for death, when they learned that Captain B—— had an abundance of the desired article. That was enough; he was able to sell his entire lot for 8s a cap.

He rushed to the Bey's palace and poured out his thanks.

"Not so fast," said the Bey. "I have not done yet. Vizer proclaim that every Hebrew who keeps a cotton cap another hour will have trouble with me."

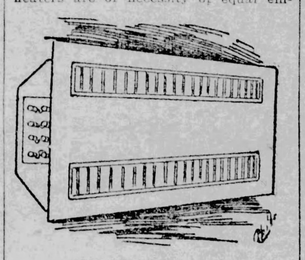
The Vizer made a grand salaam and retired. When Captain B—— returned to his ship he found a crowd of Hebrews already awaiting him, caps in hand.

He purchased all the caps again for 1d. apiece, and went on to Canton with his cargo intact and his purse laden with the silver which had been thus juggled.—Tid-Bits.

A NEW ELECTRIC HEATER.

Which, It is Claimed, Has Advantages Over Those Now Used.

All the electric energy absorbed by any electric heater is converted into heat units, and it has, in consequence, been assumed by many that electric heaters are of necessity of equal efficiency, but this is not the case. It is not sufficient merely to create heat, but also to utilize it to the best advantage, and in order to do this it is imperative that the heat should be distributed and circulated where it is needed and as fast as it is generated. No other electric heater, it is claimed, has heretofore been constructed that will do this. In other heaters, it is said, a large proportion of the heat produced has been ineffective for any useful purpose, owing to lack of proper distribution, as most of the air current passes around the coils, leaving the heat dormant, and the case of such heaters absorbs a large quantity of heat, so much so that in some instances fire has been caused. Such machines require from six to twelve amperes at 500 volts to sufficiently warm the car.



THE NEW HEATER.

In the heater here illustrated a continual circulation of air is maintained. All the air passes through the coils, and all the heat generated is carried off and distributed into the body of the car, the case of the heater remaining perfectly cool. It is claimed that there is absolutely no waste, and consequently that a much higher degree of efficiency is obtained than has hitherto been practicable.

WATER AND GOLD.

Simple Process by Which Millions of Dollars Are Annually Gained.

It is not generally known, even in California, that millions of dollars are annually taken from rude heaps of base looking quartz by the flowing of water over huge piles of broken rocks that contain the precious metal. The process of robbing the earth of its gold has now been reduced to such a fine point that the gentle flow of water over the ore gleans it of its golden treasures, and this works well in cases where the old chloride and other methods are not so useful.

The water used by miners in bringing gold from piles of mineral-bearing quartz is charged with a simple chemical, which has the potency to dissolve gold and hold it in solution. The sparkling liquid, which flows over hundreds of tone of quartz, trickles through the mines and seeks its level laden with gold, is charged with a deadly poison, cyanide of potassium, a drug which ferrets out the minutest particles of the yellowish metal, and dissolves them and brings the precious burden to the vats for conversion into refined gold again.

The cyanide process is as noiseless and unerring as the laws of gravitation. The method is based on the fact that even a very weak solution of cyanide of potassium dissolves gold and silver, forming respectively, auro-potassic cyanide, and argento-potassic cyanide. The solution is separated from the solid material, and the gold and silver are precipitated in metallic form. During the last five years the process has been introduced into almost every gold field in California and elsewhere, and more than $20,000,000 has eben recovered by the gentle flow of the waters charged with the magical solution.

Precipitation is effected by the use of fine pieces of zinc, so arranged that when the rich waters flow over them the fine gold clusters in rich deposits over the zinc, for which it has an affinity. The gold deposits itself in the form of fine dust on the plates of zinc. —Boston Journal of Commerce.

A Big Haul.

A fisherman in Elliott bay, near Seattle, recently took over nineteen hundred salmon in one haul of the seine. This is the largest haul ever made in that section. Even the rivers and bays are doing their best to help along the era of Democratic good times.

A Diplomat She.

Mrs. Temple—Aren't you afraid to stay in your house alone, your husband being away so much?

Mrs. Dacks—Oh, not at all. The policeman on this beat is engaged to my cook.—Truth.

Comparing Notes.

"What a lot of people there were at the Wortleburys's last week; and yet, how dull it was."

"Yes, dear; but it was much brighter after you left."—Punch.

JORDAN AND THE DEAD SEA

VISIT TO THE HOLY RIVER WHERE CHRIST WAS BAPTIZED.

On Horseback Through the Country Round About Jordan—The Alleged Grave of Moses.

The German traveler, Prof. H. W. Vogel, describes in Vom Fels zum Meer a recent visit to the Dead Sea and "round about Jordon," as the Bible calls the neighborhood of the holy river where Jesus Christ was baptized by John. The professor and his party carried the latest scientific apparatus, and Herr Vogel's forthcoming book on Palestine will throw new light upon many interesting things in the land where the Savior lived and preached.

The railroad leading to Jerusalem has no branch to the Dead Sea, and the travelers rode for ten hours on horseback before they heard the roar of the waves of this largest inland lake, which is popularly supposed to lie silent and calm. "Surveying the country from the top of Mount Olives," says Prof. Vogel, "I judged the distance from Jerusalem to the Dead Sea to be not more than three hours' ride, but soon discovered my error after traveling through the barren and stony landscape.

"Very frequently we had to dismount for fear of breaking our necks in climbing the precipices or descending into the Wabis Valley. After about four hours' ride we came to a great white mosque, erected over the grave of Moses, so we are told. The Moslems seemingly never heard of the passage in Holy Scriptures which says 'and no one has found his grave up to this day.' They have a grave of Adam, too, in one of the Jerusalem churches. After dismounting for luncheon at the mosque, we discovered another party of tourists, the 'Society of Hotel Employes of Cairo,' twelve in number. Their leader informed us that the Dead Sea was but a few miles away, but the observation proved as much of an optical delusion as my own was on Mount Olives. We had yet to climb many a height and had to traverse many a stony valley before we reached its neighborhood.

"When we were about half a mile from the Dead Sea we heard the terrific roar of the breakers, and five minutes later we saw the white, foaming surf. About ten feet from the strand the water was calm and of bluish color. A fresh, refreshing wind blew over the lake, and into our faces, and we had a hearty laugh over the stories that say a whiff from the Dead Sea is poisonous. Poisonous indeed, and that no bird dare cross it! I saw hundreds flying about in the best of spirits.

"Another superstition is that it would be suicidal to bathe in the Dead Sea. None of us could swim, but that mattered little, as the density of the water is so great that the human body will not sink in it. Before we reached deep water, however, we had become very much exhausted by our battle with the tremendous surf.

"Riding further north, we came to the ford of the Jordan where our Savior was baptized by John.

"'Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John to be baptized of him.

"'But John forbade him, saying: "I have need to be baptized by thee, and comest thou to me?"

"'And Jesus, answering, said unto him: "Suffer it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he suffered him.

"'And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water.'

"The description of the neighborhood in Matthew 3d holds good to this day; the river flows at this point through a muddy flat, and we found the ford passable as it was in the period when our Lord was baptized there.

"At this famous historical point we were surprised to find established a German saloon-keeper, who welcomed us in effusive style. He lived in a sort of barn constructed of rafters and dried mud. And there was a beer garden, too, with arbors offering protection against the hot sun, rough tables and benches. The proprietor proved to be a native of the Prussian town of Gnesen; his name was Mayer. He sold beer or some kind of stuff masquerading under that name, and native wines, the later being quite good.

The photograph we took of the river gives a faithful picture of the neighborhood, but the camera missed a sign pole near the edge of the water with the legend 'Boats to Let.' Mayer had half a dozen of them, beautifully painted, and asked two francs per hour for their use. We had a good meal and rest at his inn, and in the morning departed for Jericho, after filling our bottles with Jordan water for baptismals at home."—New York World.

Why He Was Spared.

"What did you mean, Sir," asked the potentate, "by alluding to me in the royal kitchen yesterday as His Nobs?"

"I merely meant," murmured the Court jester into the depths of the real tigerskin rug at the foot of the throne, "that your Royal Highness was something to adore."

And the potentate, who had never read an almanac in his life, let it go at that.—Indianapolis Journal.

No Help for It.

"Hear me," implored the hero of the play.

"No," thundered the tyrant, "I cannot hear you. There is a fashionable theater party in the front row."

Of course there was no way to enforce silence and the play proceeded as best it might.—Detroit News-Tribune.

Of Two Evils.

There is a welcome quiet in the block across the way—
We do not hear the piano-forte a-jingling night and day;
The girls now work another set of pedals up and down—
We have a respite since the cycle-craze has come to town.

Judge.

NOT AN UNLUCKY OPAL.

Appearances Were Against the Bauble, but It Was Innocent.

A party named Benson first developed this opal to public notice," says the Washington Post. He searched it forth from his pocket in a barroom. Benson had just taken a fifth drink, and was at a melancholy stage of his cups; and as he unpouched the fell jewel Benson shed a few tears.

"That's an opal," remarked Benson to the barkeeper, at the same time soaking up a tear with his handkerchief.

"That opal has blighted my whole family. I've only had it a month, and during that month my horse ran away, I lost my place, and my wife skipped out with another man. I'm going to take one more drink and think up some way to get rid of it. I'd throw it in the sewer, only I'm afraid it would ruin the drainage system of the city."

"Get on the Alexandria boat and drop it in the river," suggested the barkeeper.

"It would do up the fish if I did," said Benson. "That opal would kill every fish in the Potomac; I'm as confident of it as I am that I live. I've seen that stone at work. No; if I had some blood enemy I'd make up and saw that off on him. It would blast his every hope."

"Give it to me," said the barkeeper, after looking at it. He, by the way, was of a hardy spirit, and not at all a slave to superstition.

"Give it to me if you don't want it. I'll take a chance with it if I lose. What's she worth?"

"That opal ought to be worth $20," said Benson, passing it over, "but if its value was measured by the ruin it has wrought there would be no figure you could put on it."

So it was that the bar man came into possession of the opal. He admired it, and finally fastened it in his scarf.

"It's dead funny to me," observed the barkeeper a bit later to a race-horse tout, with whom he did business—the tout was a ten-drink-a-day man—"it's dead funny to me how superstitious some of these marks be. Now there's no more harm in that opal than there's bite in a stuffed dog. Betcherlife, it don't scare me. I'll wear it and there won't nothing happen to me. I don't get the worst of it once, see?"

Thus boasted the barman in his darkness and his ignorance. He little knew the future.

In less than ten minutes he had charged a caustic, cynical man twenty cents for a rickey and had been commented on with the bung starter.

Not only did the overcharged stranger smite the barman, hip and thigh, but in the general spirit of destruction which seized him he went on and wrecked the place. The saloon was as as mixed a mess as the grab bag at a church sociable, when the wronged one of the rickey rested from his labors.

At the Emergency hospital, where busy, Skillful doctors straightened the kinks and set the broken bones of the devastated mixer of drinks, a news gatherer looked on.

The battered man of bottles attributed his darkened destinies to the opal, and told its story. He said he must get rid of it; he was certain to die, he said, if he didn't.

"I'll take it," said the newspaper man. "The opal isn't built that can throw me down."

That evening the newspaper person was actively present when five people were engaged in the pastime known as draw poker. He was one of the quintet. To show his contempt for such fiends as might attend upon the opal he brought it into the game.

What happened to him? Not much truly. The other four didn't do a thing to him but beat a flush, a full, and three of a kind twice, which he held, and all in rapid succession.

He was shy $30—his fortune—and had given orders on his pay four weeks ahead. Thus stood the newspaper man at the end of the first hour. He was bewitched by the opal.

"I'm hag-ridden," he said, getting up. "I can't win a splinter until I get rid of this opal. Play four-handed a while and I'll go out on the street and break it off on some fellow I don't like. I'll come back as soon as I do and see if I can't win myself out of the hole."

So the newspaper man left the four lucky ones to play on.

Before he had walked a block from the rooms where the game was going on he had found his man. It was a friend who just then then trembled on the brink of wedlock.

"I don't want you to keep this opal, Bill," said the newspaper man, "because it would down you. It's bad luck, and has caused three deaths, a conflagration and a bankruptcy in the last three months. But here's what you do. Take this fatal opal to a jeweler's and trade it in for a clock and a half dozen spoons for the lady. It's worth twenty cases, and you ought to get that much for it. But don't keep it; it'll saw your leg off, sure."

Bill was very grateful. He wasn't much afraid of an opal at its worst; and certainly it couldn't do much harm before he'd get to the jeweler's with it. "I'll tell you, I might better go now," remarked the newspaper man. "The stores are still open, and I wouldn't give it any time to get in its work. That's a pretty swift opal, and gets active pretty early."

Bill concluded to go at once. He would act on the suggestion and get a clock. If there was anything over, spoons would do. Bill strolled into the store and submitted the venomous opal to the man in charge. He placed the opal in his experienced hands.

"You ain't afraid of opals?" asked Bill.

"Not at all," declared the jeweller.

"Then what'll you allow me on that in trade?"

The jeweller looked at the opal critically.

"I'd give you nothing at all on that," responded the man of trade. "That's not an opal; never was; never will be."

"What then?" said Bill, somewhat crestfallen.

"It's just glass," replied the store man, "mere glass."

And such has the fact and the truth. Now Benson, the barkeeper, and the newspaper man are busy formulating theories to explain their troubles. This is a true tale.

VESUVIUS GROWING HIGHER

IT HAS INCREASED 150 FEET IN THE PAST NINE MONTHS.

Natives Expect Another Fierce Eruption When the New Cone is Carried Down.

Recent dispatches telling of the stream of lava at Vesuvius will cause no surprise to any one who has visited the volcano within the last six months, says the New York World. It has been steadily puffing and spouting during that time, heaving out showers of molten lava and glowing by night until the clouds of vapor above it took on the appearance of rolling flames.

Two days before the last out pour from a break in the cone the shell of the old crater trembled from the working of the lava underneath, and the peculiar sounds of hissing and growling which accompanied each small eruption could be heard two miles away.

Vesuvius is 150 feet higher than it was nine months ago. The constant showers of porous lava have filled in one side of the old hollow crater and have built up the new cone, which, from its bold outlines, has greatly changed the appearance of the summit, and is still changing it slightly every day. Formerly the volcano, as seen from Naples, had a rounded top, but now it comes to a wedgepoint. A year ago visitors looked into the hollow of the old and somewhat cooled off crater.

NEW CRATER OF VESUVIUS.
(The sides of the new cone have reared themselves 150 feet in nine months.)

Of late they have gone inside the boudiaries of the old crater to get a good look at the new cone, from the summit of which, at intervals of a few minutes, there is a gust of steam, laden with red hot ashes, which are sent into the air two hundred feet or more. Before the steam has drifted away there is another rumblo, a sound of watery explosion, and another shower of ashes. Thus, from a distance, in the day time, there seems to be a constant curl of white vapor from the summit, but at night each separate eruption throws up a vivid light, which then fades away to a dull glow.

The natives who live on the slope of the mountain said that after the new cone had been built somewhat higher it would fall in of its own weight and close the present breathing hole. Then the mountain would be like a corked up bottle. A new vent would have to be made, and in the making of this vent there would be a fierce eruption, an overflow of lava, and the formation of a new crater. Apparently the natives should be informed, as some of them had ancestors at Pompeii, and many remember distinctly the incidents of the fierce eruption of 1872, by which the present crater was formed.

There was, indeed, a general belief that the renewed and growing activity of the volcano would lead to some sort of eruption, but it was hoped that it would be nothing more serious than a flow of lava down over the old and hardened beds. The last outbreak and the flow toward Resina (in the direction of the buried city of Herculaneum) was, therefore, not unexpected.

The funicular railway up the big cone was built many years ago. A popular song, "Funiculi! Funiculai!" relates to this particular enterprise. At the railway station and restaurant, in the shadow of the big cone, about 90 people are employed. The houses are white, clean and comfortable, and the view of Naples, the bay and Capri is unsurpassed, but one could imagine nothing more cheerless than living on the reverse side of the earth's shell with only the lifeless shapes of lava for neighbors. In the season the monotonous slope of the mountain creeps with life. There are 200 visitors a day. The restaurant takes on the busy air of a city hotel, and the railway cars fly up and down incessantly.

What They Talk About.

Mrs. Yerger—Matilda, you and Mrs. Peterby's servant are always talking together. What do you find to talk about?

Matilda Snowball—We was just amusin' ourselves, Jess de same as you and Mrs. Peterby does, except dat you talk about the servants and we talked about our employers. Heah! heah!—Texas Siftings.

Doing Pretty Well.

Doctor—Well, madam, how are you today?

Madam—Oh, doctor, I have frightful pains all over my whole body, and it seems impossible to breathe; of course, I can't sleep, and I have no appetite at all.

Doctor—Um-er—well, otherwise you're all right, aren't you?—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

Evidently Not Scotch.

Teacher—How would you correct the sentence: "He sat there quiet and listened to the bagpipes' music?"

Pupil—I would scratch out the word music.—Chicago Tribune.

Our New Serial Story.

BOB BURLEIGH'S FARM.

WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR THE TOLEDO BLADE
BY RICHARD MALCOLM STRONG.

CHAP. XI.—DOLLY.

"I don't know what the outcome of this is going to be," was John Burleigh's remark when the three were on their way to Burleigh Place—three, for 'Lish Eddy thought he "migh's well go 'long t' git in all the ifs 'n' ans in telling the story"—"but one thing I'm sure of; I've done my duty. I've licked Jake Able and if I'd done it years ago as I ought to have, he would have been just as well off, and 'twould have been the making of me. It's done now, though; and that man's got to get away from Stonebottom."

The mile and a quarter were soon over, and John's troubled face was tell-tale enough to his watchful wife that something had happened. "Whatever in the world is the matter now, John?" she began. "You're not going to tell me that you've been to Stonebottom and"—thank God, her first thought was a wrong one, and beyond that she did not care—"got into any trouble, I hope," she went on, with a softer tone. "Do hurry and tell me what it is."

"It may be trouble and it may not be, but I've just given Jake Able a raw-hiding that he'll remember to his dying day; and I ought to have done it long ago. I've been grinding about Tom more and more for over a month, and I made up my mind that that skunk down there was at the bottom of it all, and I slipped my new rawhide up my sleeve and Rob and I went down there to look the ground over. 'Where's Tom?' says I, when I'd got into the bar room. 'Tom's all right,' says he, 'but here's what you want,' John,' and what did that devil do but pour out a half tumbler of brandy and offer it to me in one hand, while he put out the other one to shake hands! God, C'listy! I couldn't tell which was the worst, the devil in the glass or the one out on't, and for a minute I was weak as a rag. In that minute I saw all the want and the woe and the misery that I—I, C'listy, have brought on all of us for all these years. Then in a flash I felt my strength come back and a good deal that I never had along with it; and with one hand I knocked that damned brandy out of his hand, and with the other dropped the devil that held it to the floor. Then was the time that I used the rawhide. I'm sorry, C'list, if you wish I hadn't; but after this, when you meet Jake Abele, you can hold up your head as high as anybody, for all the shame and disgrace that you and the children have suffered I've wiped out in the biggest horsewhipping that a mean, devilish cuss ever had laid on his contemptible hide. Ye can't, and ye don't blame me so very much, do ye, C'listy?"

"Then was the time that old Dick Dean got out of his grave and had a picnic," was what 'Lish told his wife when he reached home. "Ye'd a thought he was there, anyway, and had managed somehow to git int' C'list Burleigh's petticoats and made b'lieve he was her. She put that eye o' hern outew 'im the minute he began, 'n' she looked 'im straight 'n the eye till 'e got all through, 'n' then says she, 'Did you give Jake Abele a hoss-whippin,, a good one?' says she. 'As' 'Lish 'f I didn't,' says John. 'Ye bet y'r life' says I. Her eyes looked like a couple o' coals 'f fire, 'n' she glared right at 'im 'n' all 't once she rushed at 'im, 'n' throwed her arms 'raound 'is neck, 'n' such smacks, M'lindy, I never heered 'n' my born days! 'There,' says she, 'yew jist set still 'n' rest 'n' le' me git ye the best cup o'coffee y'ever put inter y'r insides. Hosswhipped Jake Abele! An' he offered ye s'me brandy —brandy!—a-n-d i-n-s-t-e-a-d o' t-a-k-in' a-n-i ye knocked 'im down! O, John, John!! I b'lieve ye be goin' t' be somebody once more!' Then she went t' kissin' on 'im again! 'n' says, f'r 't seemed t' me 't the soft sodder was gittin' ruther thick 'round there, 'Me 'n' Rob was there tew? No quicker said 'n done, 'n' I'll be dumbed, if she did not come at me 'n Rob 'n' kiss us twice a piece, I wouldn't say so; but, M'lindy, you'd better g' over 'n' hev Mis' Burleigh till ye know t' make coffee. Ha'n't he'l such a cup o' coffee sense ol' Mis' Morgan 's buried!"

"Well f'r pity's sake alive! You don't mean t' tell me 't Jake Abele stood there 'n' took it without movin' a muscle or hollerin, 'ther ye? Where was Mis' Abele all this time? Anybody'd think, t' hear ye talk, 't ye'd ba'n t' somebody's funeral. What'd that whelp of a Jake Able say? Didn't he grab John b' the throat 'n' try t' shake his liver aout on 'im? Seems 's if he must a fit, 'r suthin,. Didn't 'e?"

"Good grievous! Melindy, 'f I was a woman 'n' could keep both ends of m' tongue waggin 't once, I might tell ev'rything 'n a breath, but I kin't 'n' 'f ye don't keep still I won't tell ye nothin', now then! He jumped 'n' kicked and yelled 'n' swore till ev'rything was blue, 'n' when it looked 's if ther' was any danger'f his stoppin, John, that young cockerel of a Rob stuck aout his head 'n' ruffled up his feathers 'n' made a jab at 'im with his spurs, 'n' there wan't anything the poor devil could dew but jes' take it, 'n' that's what he did, 'n' when John got threw Jake Abele was the wust licked man 't I ever see, dumbed 'f 'e wan't!"

The details were not related over the coffee, for after Mrs. Burleigh had set about its preparation, Dolly, whose impatience could be no longer restrained, asked with eagerness in her very voice: "But what about Tom, father? Did you find out what has became of him?"

The very question seemed to turn Mrs. Burleigh to stone. She stood with the canister in one hand and a heaping spoonful of the ground berry in the other, until John had repeated Abie's answer. Then finishing her preparations she turned to Dolly who had given way to the alarming fears that overwhelmed her at the fate of poor Tom.

"Come, Dolly, don't take on in that fashion over any such nonsense. If Tom's been taking any of Jake's money, he's got no more, I'd be bound, than a part of what Jake worse than stole from your father, but he hasn't. Tom has been no end of a worry, but, mark my words, he's no thief."

"Yes, mother; but he's gone off, nobody knows where, and how do we know what has become of him? You know as well as I do that Jake Able will leave no stone unturned to get him into trouble. I'm going after him!"

"Dolly Burleigh! What utter nonsense! Where will you go? What you going to do after you get there—you, a weak young farm girl who never was outside of the home chimney, starting out to find a young man, old enough and big enough to take care of himself! Whatever put such stuff into your head, Dolly?"

"God!"

Her face was the face of an angel as she said it; and as she stood for a moment in the middle of that astonished home circle, the lamplight seemed to take to itself an unwanted glow and to gleam like a halo around her shining hair.

"Tom's gone to New York, mother and I'm going after him on the morning train. You needn't be at all worried about me. I shall go where he is, and I shall bring him home. Good evening, 'Lish;" and, taking the candle that stood on the work-table at her side, she went to her room to prepare for the unexpected journey.

"Good grievous!" was 'Lish's exclamation when the girl had gone, "that ain't a goin' t' dew, that young woman, trapesin' 'raound New York city after her brother! They'll think she's crazy 'n shet 'er up 'n' I shouldn't blam 'em, b'gosh, 'f they did!"

"Well, what can anybody do about it? She's made up her mind to go, you c'n see that 's well 's anybody, and you can't turn her any more than you can turn so much cast iron, and if anyone of us should say anything about going with her there would be trouble. No; the only thing to do is to let her have her own way and make up our minds to be satisfied with the result, whatever it be," and Mrs. Burleigh put down the shoe she was binding to serve the coffee.

Early rising was the rule on the Burleigh farm, but Dolly's sleepless night led to an earlier rising than usual, so that long before breakfast was ready she was waiting for it and thinking of her journey.

"Now, mother, I don't want you or father to worry about me at all. Rob won't I know. I know exactly what I'm going to do, and I know I can trust to my wits to find out how to do it. There is somebody at the head of the New York police and I can easily find him. I shall take a carriage at the station and go to him at once. I shall tell him exactly what I want, and I know that Tom will be found, if he is in the city, and it won't take a great while either. How do I know about the chief of the police? How does anybody know about him?"

"Yes, Dolly, but what are you going to do for money? You haven't any too much, and if you get off there with nothing to bring you back you are going to be in a dreadful condition. Give it up, Dolly, and let father go—"

"Father can't find Tom, mother, and I can; and if he should Tom wouldn't come home with him. I've all the money I want and I shall get a return ticket, so you see I'm sure of getting home again, so please, mother, don't worry about that."

So with many misgivings they saw Dolly start down the lane to the station, wondering if the determined girl would accomplish her purpose and bring the boy home with her.

There was plenty of time to reach the train without hurry, and the brother and sister were too busy with their own affairs to give more than a passing thought to the well-known neighborhood. The people at Stonebottom were astir as they drove through. The Eddy door was open, but no one was in sight. Everything was quiet at the tavern, but one or two large dry goods boxes near the door seemed to indicate that Jake had decided to keep his promise and leave the neighborhood within the prescribed time—at least Mrs. Able had, as it was discovered afterwards. The only thing which seemed to them at all remarkable was seeing 'Lish Eddy at that early hour talking with Saul Daniels as they passed his place, but that was hardly to be commented on, for one of 'Lish's strong points was turning up at all times and in all places where and when he was least expected.

"Now, Rob, you want to come down for me day after to-morrow night, and if I'm not here you go over to the postoffice and you'll find a letter for you. Good-bye," and with a kiss and a wave of the hand to Dolly's pretty face, framed a few minutes later by the car window, Rob drove home to work on the farm.

The journey to New York was not so long as it was tiresome. Three hours' ride brought the traveler to Willowby Junction, where there was a wearisome wait of several hours. Dolly knew this and had fortified herself for it with a book and a generous lunch, and the station there, unlike most of its class, was fitted up with some idea of comfort for the traveling public. The station agent and his young wife had the building in charge, and, as she was the telegraph operator, she had brightened up the room with flowers and made the ladies' room attractive as well as neat and comfortable. So when Dolly found herself the only occupant of the room after the departure of the train she appropriated the rocking chair, and, opening her traveling bag, was preparing to make herself contented with her book and luncheon when the telegraph operator surprised her with a cup of coffee and the two became companionable at once.

Had she been to New York City? was Dolly's leading question, and as she had been, the tidy little woman told her all about the Forty-second street station; what she must do, and where she must go, and whom she must ask for, and ended by showing Dolly a picture of it all and gave her a map of the city; so that by the time all this was said and done, it wanted but a few minutes to train time, and she began to gather up her belongings, when looking up she saw Rodney Howard standing before her, hat in hand.

"Good afternoon, Miss Burleigh. If there is anything in signs, your intentions are strongly inclined towards New York. Do I read them correctly?"

Dolly's heart sprang to her throat. At that minute, next to Jake Abe, this was the last man she wanted to see; and the flush of red, climbing to her cheeks, might have betrayed her thoughts to the sign reader, had he been deeply versed in sign love; but, like most of his sex and age, he read in the brightened face before him only an evidence of appreciation of himself, especially presentable then he thought, to that attractive and unprotected young traveler. Never at her wit's ends, the young woman was not alarmed. She wished from her heart that the meeting had not happened—if it did happen! She was afraid of him, she acknowledged to herself; but none knew better than she that where there's a will there's a way, and, determined to make the most of him and of his knowledge, she gracefully yielded to what seemed to be the inevitable and answered with a smile: "You're a good sign reader, Mr. Howard, and there is the New York train. Good-bye."

"O, but Miss Burleigh, I'm going too, and if I may, I shall be only too glad to assist you. Allow me," and his well gloved hand offered to relieve her of her hand-bag.

"Thank you, Mr. Howard, it's no trouble," but he took the bag, led the way to the train, and finding a seat for her, went into the smoking car. Seeing no one there but a hay seed in goggles, slouch hat and ulster, he soon returned and the two began chatting pleasantly together.

"Isn't it rather hazardous, Miss Burleigh for you to be traveling alone to New York; or are you expecting to meet friends when you reach the city?"

"O, I'm not afraid. I know exactly where I am going and my stay is to be short. Isn't your leaving Stonebottom rather sudden, Mr. Howard?"

"Yes; but after what happened last night there was but one thing to do, and I did it. Able expects to leave and I ex away just as soon as I could. 'Lish Eddy drove me across the country to Willowby Junction and that's how I happened to catch this train."

"Then you don't expect to go back to Stone-bottom?"

"No, indeed."

"I'm glad to hear it, and I hope you'll find something else to do besides tending—working for such a man as Jake Able. Most of us girls would be glad to have you come back to any other business; I know I would. It was that dreadful man that made all the trouble with Tom, and we girls have wondered how you could keep straight and live in the house with him. You couldn't if you hadn't a strong mind of your own, now could you?"

The pleased young man admitted that was the only thing that saved him.

"Now, you've been so much with Tom, Mr. Howard, you must know him pretty well, and do you honestly believe that he ever took any of Jake's money? I hesitated to ask you until I knew that you are not going back, but you're through with Able, and I know you won't mind telling me."

Through with Able, the little innocent beauty! How little she knew that his coming to Stone-bottom was on her account and not on her brother's; and that Jake Able's scheme and his was her own destruction. Her artlessness touched him, her evident admiration of him pleased him; and so long as she was already in the power of his will to tell her all she wanted to know about that precious brother, whom he would be very careful that she should not see on this trip.

"No Miss Burleigh, I don't mind telling you. You couldn't get Tom to steal. We tried it—that is, Able did; but it was no go. He won't drink, either. The cigars suffered some, but that was all, except, of course, the billiards. He was found to learn the game and did, and when the time came for him to go to New York he told us not to tell anybody where he was going. When he gets fixed in a good place he is going to let the folks know all about it. I suppose you haven't heard from him yet, have you?"

"Nothing definite, but what we did hear made me start for New York, and there I am."

"I am glad I met you. New York is a bad place for ladies traveling alone, and when we get there, I know where Tom is and I'll go right over there with you. It'd be fun to see Tom open his eyes to see us walk in. If you'll excuse me, I'll go forward for a smoke," and politely lifting his hat, Rodney Howard went exulting away to smoke and plan the rest of his precious undertaking.

(To Be Continued.)

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A Study of Death, by Henry Mills Alden, is published by Harper & Bros., New York city. Those who read this author's former work, God in His World, will see that this is a complement to that, and that it is an effort to show the reader that what seem dark and gloomy laws are really signs of a father's love.

Miss Constance Fenimore Woolson's The Front Yard, and Other Italian Stories, published by Harper & Bros., New York City, touches a note of pathos in its unspoken reminder that no more work will come from the skilful hand that wrought these tissues. Of the American heroines in the six stories here collected one is the transplanted New England woman whose ideas are never wrenched from her native rocks, one is of the self-restrained national type that is indigenous from Maine to Oregon, three are of the brilliant New York variety, and one "hails" from Tuscolee Falls, in the boundless West.

Red Men and White, by Owen Wister, is a series of eight short stories depicting various incidents on the Western frontier. The following are the titles of some of them: Little Big Horn Medicine, Specimen Jones, The Serenade at Siskiyou, The General's Bluff, Salvation Gap, Second Missouri Compromise, and others. There is a lynching episode, and also a humorous sketch of the adventures of an Eastern traveler in Arizona. Harper & Bros., New York city.

Notes in Japan is a charming volume, not only in matter, but in execution. The author, Alfred Parsons, has proven himself no less an artist with his pencil and brush than with his pen. The text narrates in easy narrative the wanderings of the artist, and the half-tone reproductions of his work are scattered in profusion through all the pages. The colors are scarcely missed in the pictures, so perfect is the publisher's work, but Mr. Parsons also has the artist's power of seeing and describing, and his word-painting of colors supplies all that is lacking in the black and white. The chapter on Fujisan, the sacred mountain, is a fine example of his style. Harper &Bros., New York city.

Sunshine and Haar, by Gilbert Setown, is a series of eight sketches and a short story, giving impressions of the every day life in the Scotch village of Barnecraig. This is a second book, or a sort of sequel to the one entitled Barnecraig, and has the same characteristics. The second part is a continuation of the sketch, What Santa Claus Brought to the Poet. It lightens the more somber part of the volume. Harper & Bros., New York city.

The Sowers, by Henry Seton Merriman, is a story of a Russian nobleman who attempts to assist his tenants by means of a charity league whose existence is unknown to the Russian government. The secret of the league having been sold to the authorities, the prince, aided by his agent, Karl Steinmetz, flies to London. The prince there marries a Mrs. Bamborough, the widow of an attache who had been in Russia. Claude de Chauxville, a French diplomatist who had loved the princess before her marriage, follows the prince and his wife to Paris, and there learns that it was the princess who had, with her former husband, sold the secret of the charity league. With the hope of being able by means of this knowledge to force the Princess to leave her husband, he follows them to Russia, and there incites the peasants to rise against their master, trusting that in the confusion he might carry off the princess. The castle is stormed, the princess is killed by the peasants, and De Chauxville dies while trying to save her. Harper & Brothers, New York city.

Jude, the Obscure, is the story by Thomas Hardy which was published in serial form in Harper's Magazine under the title of Hearts Insurgent. In the book, the author states, parts omitted have been restored. The author states that he is addressing mature men and women, which is to excuse some plain representations of the master passion. Those who admire Hardy will like this story, but to others it is full of what repels rather than attracts. Harper & Brothers, New York city.

A House-Boat on the Styx is a tour de imagination of John Kendrick Bangs, which first appeared serially in Harper's Weekly. The shades of the great of the past, organize themselves into a club, and occupy a houseboat anchored near the Hades shore of the Styx; and they have pretty much such a time as they may be imagined to hold were they in the flesh, under similar circumstances. The volume is well illustrated. (Cloth, 171 pages, Harper & Brothers, New York city.)

The bound volume of Harper's Round Table for 1895—the sixteenth in the series—marks an important epoch in the history of this periodical, the chief features of which have been a change of name and the establishment of a new department. A brief glance at the present volume shows that during the year ten serials by well-known authors have made up a portion of the contents. In addition there have appeared during the same period of time over 125 short stories, in which the tastes of boys and girls have been equally consulted, almost as many descriptive and historical sketches, and numerous articles full of valuable information. The period is an ideal one for young people in all ways helpful. (Harper & Brothers, New York city.)

Dona Perfecta, by H. Peres Galdos, which is translated by Mary J. Serrano. This is a powerfully written story, pronounced by W. D. Howells in his introduction "a great novel." The following is a slight outline of the plot: Senor Pepe de Rey arrives at the city of Orbajosa to marry Rosario, the daughter of his aunt, Dona Perfecta. Dona Perfecta, a devout but bigoted Catholic, is greatly under the influence of the Penitentiary of the Cathedral, who, desiring to marry his nephew Jacinto to Rosario, poisons the mind of Perfecta against Pepe by holding him up as a scoffer at religion. The love of the aunt turns to hate, and, after secretly procuring him many mortifications, succeeds in Pepe's leaving her house and forbids the marriage. What follows the reader will learn for himself. Harper & Bros., New York city.

Oakleigh, by Ellen Douglas Deland, is a story for young people which is prettily illustrated. This is a tale of home life, full of its struggles and trials. The characters are natural and act in a most human way. The story follows this family of boys and girls in their country home until most of them are grown up and married. It is a most readable book. Published by Harper & Bros., New York city.

Kerchief to Hunt Souls, by M Amelia Fyfche, is a story of Bohemian life in Paris, and is full of the most vivid pictures of the fascinating Latin quarter. The trials and temptations to which pretty young American girls are exposed in Paris among students and artists are well portrayed. The Arena Co., Boston.

The Heart of Old Hickory is the title of a collection of eight popular stories by Will Allen Dromgoole, published in a pretty volume by the Arena Publishing company, of Boston. Each of these stories is a study that reveals a different phase of human character, and each study is a work of art. Several show the author's supple skill in dialect writing, and all reveal the hand of a master in delineating character. Here we have inimitable humor, graceful fun, delightful sallies of wit, and genuine pathos, all combined with extraordinary descriptive powers.

Another book from the Arena company is Over the Old Trail, by Lewis B. France. This is a graphic picture of old mining life in Colorado, full of lights and shadows, with touches here and there of humor mingled with deep pathos into which enters also the tragic element. The scene is laid in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, where "the August sun rises always in a cloudless sky, and Mount Powell, with its great double peaks and snow fields, has a setting in crimson, then in pale gold, that quickly drifts into delicate blue as the sun reaches up over the summit, drives out the mists, and gladdens the narrow valley." The character of Dolly, the heroine, Sandy McLaughlin's daughter, is exceedingly well drawn, as is also that of Bradford. One of the finest things in the story is the picture of the love between Dolly and her father.

Politics for Prudent People, or the Phronocrat, by Slack Worthington is brought out by the Arena Publishing Company, Boston. This volume has been written by an individual who thinks that he has discovered a specific for all the social and political ills that afflict the community. This is to adopt a system which he has named "phronocracy," from two Greek words meaning prudence and strength.

Which Way, Sire, the Better? is the title of a story by James M. Martin. The central thought was suggested to the author by the long continued strike in the coke fields in Pennsylvania, and later those at Homestead and Buffalo, with their sacrifice of life and property. Under the guise of a story the writer has suggested a way out of the present unsettled conditions existing between capital and labor. The little book is worth reading. It is also published by the Arena company, of Boston.

The Double Man is a novel by F. B. Dowd which will challenge two kinds of criticism—that from people who have little idea of what a power dwells in hypnotism which will be strongly condemnatory; and, second, that from those who, having studied the matter, know what terrible things may be accomplished, and that the story declared to be a true one is not necessarily exaggerated. That the tale is not a pleasant one is certain, and whether it will accomplish much good is questionable, because they who need the warning conveyed will hold it simply as a sensational novel. Meanwhile it remains a strong protest against hypnotism. Published by the Arena company, Boston.

The Woman Who Did Not, by Victoria Crosse, is evidently a story aimed to contradict Mr. Grant Allen. The heroine is named Eurydice and she is married to a man she does not love. Upon board ship she meets a man who, unknowing she is married, falls in love with her and she with him. They part at her insistence, but meet again later on, and he tries to win her from her duty, but in vain. The story is published by Roberts Brothers, Boston.

Roberts Bros., Boston, send out a charming Christmas story by M. Carrie Hyde, entitled Under the Stable Floor. The author of Gootsie, and Yan and Nochie of Tappan Sea, has made a new departure in this tale, and has given the children, even those of older growth, a rare treat.

In the Okefenokee, by Louis Pendleton, is a story of war time and the great Georgia swamp. It tells of the troubles of a family of refugees, part of whom, including the father and mother, went away leaving two boys at home with the servants. These boys ventured into the swamp and were lost. Their adventures make up the story, which is a very interesting one for boys. Roberts Bros., Boston.

My Honey, by the author of Miss Toosey's Mission, is a pretty story for girls, and will cause an hour to pass very pleasantly to older people. Hetty is the heroine who does not in the beginning challenge our interest, but later on she becomes more winning. The old rector is a most lovable character, and the reader will not fail to be pleased with the end of the story for His sake. Roberts Bros., Boston.

The Helen Jackson Year Book, which is made up of selections by Harriet T. Perry, is published by Roberts Brothers, Boston. Every day in the year has its quotations. It used to be said, and it is still often true, that "women are women's worst enemies." It is therefore delightful when, as in this case, one woman shows such thorough appreciation of the work of another. This book will make a charming Christmas gift.

Private Tinker and Other Stories by John Strange Winter, is a collection of ten stories by this popular author which are as follows, in addition to the first, which gives its name to the book: Major Vandeleur's Trust; A Crown of Asphodel; Fred's Annie; A Scarborough Love Story; Jeannie's Marriage; A Heart Unspotted; The Finger of God; Because and Into the Light. Published by Frederick A. Stokes company, New York city.

Jessie McDermott has beautifully illustrated the new children's fable, Frowzle the Runaway, written by Lily F. Wesselhoeft. This pretty tale is in the author's happiest vein, and will be hailed with delight by all the youngsters. Roberts Brothers, Boston.

Lilith is a romance by George Macdonald, which is brought out by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. To the ordinary reader this volume will prove exceedingly wearisome. To those who are able to catch the deeper meaning of the author it is beautiful in the extreme.

Wilmot's Child is the title of a pretty little volume whose motif is given in Southey's remark that "a house is never perfectly furnished for enjoyment unless there is in it a child rising three years old, and a kitten rising three weeks." It is a little idyl; not a set story, but glimpses out of the lives of Issy and her parents—with a lesson embedded in it for all married couples. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York. Cloth, 75 cents.)

Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, have just put forth a sumptuous edition of Ian Maclaren's popular story, A Doctor of the Old School. It is profusely illustrated by Frederick C. Goodon. It is printed on heavy paper in the highest style of the art, and will be greatly enjoyed by the host of admirers of the quaint author and his flesh and blood creations.

Aunt Billy, by Alyn Yates Kelth, is the first of a series of sketches which the reader will find delightful, and which names the book. "Aunt Billy," "A Wayside Character," "A Day of Days," and "Miss Hetty" all seem to bring with them a breath of fresh air from the country, while "The Desultory Club" discusses in a manner appropriate to its name a variety of topics of special interest to thoughtful women. These sketches are full of mingled humor and pathos, which everybody must enjoy. Lee & Shepard, Boston, Mass.

Notes from the Grey Nunnery, by Mrs. J. S. Hallock, is the familiar title given the pleasant old country house by the author of the Notes and her companion. Here this bright student of nature passed a happy year, which is described in an elegant and charming manner in the Notes. The occurrences of the year, from January to December, are noted, and nothing of interest seems to have been allowed to pass unnoticed. Nature in all its phases is depicted with great skill, showing keen observation and wonderful powers of description. Lee & Shepard, Boston, are the publishers.

Two Years on the Alabama is the story of that famous rebel cruiser, told by Arthur Sinclair, who was a lieutenant on board her from her fitting out until her sinking by the gallant old Kearsarge. Besides being a true story of the career of the Alabama, under Semmes, it has an added interest in being the personal narrative of one of her officers. It is a valuable contribution to the history of the war, and a most interesting story withal. It is illustrated with views of the Alabama and the Kearsarge, and portraits of many of the officers of the former. (Cloth, 344 pages.) Lee & Shepard, 10 Milk street, Boston.

Sophie May is probably one of the best known of all the writers of children's stories. Lee & Shepard, 10 Milk street, Boston, have just published another volume of Little Prudy's Children, entitled Kyzie Dunlee, "A Golden Girl," which is fully as enjoyable as any of the many happy works that have preceeded it.

The Sale of a Soul, by F. Frankfort Moore, is published by the F. A. Stokes company, New York. After five years of marriage the heroine finds that she is misunderstood by her husband and neglected, so she makes up her mind to "sell her soul" to Mr. Stuart Forrest, and goes off with him to the West Indies. Her husband follows her, but does not murder Mr. Forrest or herself.

Toxin is a story of Venice by Ouida and bears the ear marks of that prolific writer. There is the same wealth of adjectives in the description, the same touch of satire of the highest emotions, and the same mingling of tragedy and pathos which characterize all of her stories. It is published by Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York.

Anne of Argyle, or Cavalier and Covenant, by George Eyre-Todd, the author of Byways of the Scottish Border, etc., is a story of the stormy ways in the seventeenth century. In the first chapter a leading character is introduced, a hated cavalier, the son of the brave Marquis of Montrose, who had recently lost his life for the sake of his master, Charles II. A little later he rescues from danger Anne of Argyle, the daughter of Montrose's worst enemy. They fall in love with each other and from this time onward their fortunes vary. It is a good historical story. Frederick A. Stokes company, New York city.

A Hard Woman by Violet Hunt comes from Appleton & Co., New York. This is a delineation of a character which is not new to the reader. Lydia Munday is a type of woman found in nearly every large family who governs or tries to all around her and insists upon having everything their own way.

The King of Andaman by J. Maclaren Cobban, the author of the Revered Gentleman, etc., is published in the Town and Country Library of D. Appleton & Co., New York City. It is an English story well told.

The Young Conductor, or Winning His Way, is a story by the well known writer for boys, Edward S. Ellis. It begins with the rescue of a train from being thrown from the track through the villainy of two tramps who had arranged the plot. The rescue was accomplished by the hero of the tale, Dick Farrollon, who became the young conductor. It is a fascinating book, and will hold its readers. The Merriam company, New York city.

Another of the books brought out by the renascence of Napoleonic literature is Josephine, Empress of the French, by Frederick A. Ober. It is a well written biography of the unhappy consort of the first Napoleon, well illustrated, and told in a very readable way. The side-lights thrown on the career of the man of destiny are not less valuable than the history of Josephine herself. (The Merriam Company, 67 Fifth avenue, New York. Cloth, $2.)

Justice to children is the principle underlying every line of Florence Hull Winterburn's Nursery Ethics, published by the Merriam company, 67 Fifth avenue, New York. The author is the editor of the magazine "Childhood," and is an active and earnest worker in several parents' societies, hence she is well equipped for the handling of this important matter. The book is worthy the careful and thoughtful perusal of every parent.

Effie and the Katydid, by Frances and E. J. Austen, is a fairy story of a little girl and her Katydid that will entertain the little folks. It is beautifully illustrated. Such stories will enlarge the imagination and only make young readers more thoughtful of the rights of insects and animals they meet. Animals and birds, and even insects have a language, and it is well as far as possible to understand them. Like people, they have their cares, sorrows and anxieties, and they are able to tell each other of them. The little Effie pretended to understand what Katydid said. She at least thought she did, and what she tells will inspire other children to be less cruel to helpless creatures. Published by the Merriam company, New York city.

THE TURN OF LIFE.

WOMAN'S CRITICAL PERIOD

Contemplated with Less Fear than of Old.

[SPECIAL TO OUR LADY READERS.]

There is no period in woman's earthly career which she approaches with so much anxiety as the "change of life." Yet during the past twenty years women have learned much from a woman.

It is safe to say that women who prepare themselves for the eventful period pass through it much easier than in the past.

There is but one course to pursue. *Lydia E. Pinkham's* Vegetable Compound should be used in time to subdue the nervous complications, and prepare the system for the change.

It is well for those approaching the time to write Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., and get her free advice.

Such testimony as the following should be convincing:—

"Your Vegetable Compound has been a God-send to me: it saved my life when all else failed. I would have been in my grave ten years ago but for it. My womb had fallen and rested on the bladder. The doctor could not relieve me: my mind was deranged. Your Compound cured me. It helped me through the change of life all right: am now in good health. It has also cured my husband of kidney trouble: made him like a new man. Please state my words in the strongest terms. I am glad to send you my picture. I travelled twelve miles to have it taken for you. MRS. W. L. DAY, Bettsville, O.

PRESIDENT'S POET LAUREATE

THOMAS B. REED WOULD ASK W. D. HOWELLS TO WEAR THE LAUREL AND SILKEN ROBES.

Riley Is Harrison's Favorite, Carleton Is McKinley's and Ella Wheeler Wilcox Is Brice's.

With the growth of an older civilization in this country comes the demand for the institutions which are the product of an older growth. England and the mother countries have establishments, institutions, customs, rites and personages that with us are unknown.

None of these are more interesting than that of a poet laureate, which is the appointing of a poet who shall celebrate all the affairs of the nation by fiting verse, reveiling in sonnets, in lyrics, in satires and in simple stanzas, as the case may require.

The poet laureate keeps himself well informed of affairs of the nation, and each movement is quickly hailed with a poem. It is the business also of the laureate to celebrate pain or joy in the immediate family of the reigning house and to make the affairs of the house a thing of poetic beauty for the whole nation.

The establishment of a poet laureate in this country would confer different duties from the one in England, though not entirely different. The poet laureate here would be expected, of course, to celebrate the President's birthday, his marriage, if such occurred, and the birth of his children; but further than that his mission would undoubtedly be to sing the movements of the Senate and House. The opening of either would call forth a poem. The Presidential message would be met with a verse. The adiournment of the House, the appointment of a speaker or the death in office of a cabinet member would all be signals for the muse to open his inspired mouth.

The way of dealing with and treating the poet laureate in this country would be to make him a member of each cabinet, and allow him to be one of the "Cabinet Family." Whether or not the appointment would be for life, or whether each incoming president would have the pleasure of appointing his own laureate is another question—something to be decided later on.

A gentleman who is much interested in poetry and particularly in native American poetry was discussing the matter a few days ago:

"I should like," said he, "to see a poet laureate in this country. And I must say that I should like to see the holder of the office changed every four years. American poetry is now so diversified, is so far-reaching in its aims, and so very widely varying in treatment, that to select one man would be doing a rank injustice to all the other poets whose merit is no less, but who are different in style. Compare, for example, Riley and Stedman, or Carleton and Thomas Bailey Aldrich. Which is best? 'Ridiculous,'' you say, 'to compare.'

"I happened to know," continued this gentleman, "that Thomas B. Reed is very fond of the poetry of William D. Howells. All men do not like it, but if Reed were made President and were asked to appoint a laureate, he would undoubtedly select W. D. Howells.

"Howell's muse, while stiff and not altogether 'sweet,' is mighty adaptable. Take those lines of his in Race, published in either Harper's or the Century, illustrated by his daughter. See how admirably they fit in at Reed's birthday or similar time occasions:

"'I am Race and both are mine,
Mortal age and youth divine;
Mine to grant, but not in fee;
Both again revert to me.
From each that lives, that I may give
Unto each that yet shall live.'

"You see the lines are a little foggy, but no more than is expected of a poet laureate. An appointed poet, whose lines read clear and plain, would lose the mystic halo of his position—always a desirable thing in a laureate. See how the lines would go on if taken from Race:

"'Some time after you are old,
You shall come and I will take
From your brow the sullen ache,
From your eyes the twilight gaze,
Darkening upon winter days.'

"How admirably these lines would go at a President's birthday.

"To illustrate the difference in Presidents and their tendencies," continued the same unquestionable authority, "take Calvin S. Brice and his poetic preferences.

"I have it upon the very best of authority that Brice likes the poetry of Ella Wheeler Wilcox better than that of any other poetic writer. Both are from the West; and though it is not expected that a President would show any sectional bias in a matter of that kind, I know that Brice certainly does admire the 'Little Singer from the West.' Her 'Century' poetry has specially, I am told, pleased him. And she is versatile, too.

"I am thinking as I speak of her lines on many different topics. She can treat anything. Suppose a denominational war were to arise, or a great international religious controversy, see how she would handle it, and how simply. Take her little quatrain:

"'So many Gods, so many creeds,
So many paths that wind and wind,
When just the art of being kind
Is all the sad world needs.'

"Could the subject be tackled any more easily and yet diplomatically than that?

"Morton's calm spirit fancies Gilder. I know he likes him extremely well. The president is said to read Gilder evenings, but is happen to know it is Levi P. Morton who fingers over the leaves of Gilder's poems. His verses are not liked by every one, but I think even his enemies would say—if they would read them carefully—that they are not as bad as they are painted. As for myself, I like Gilder's lines always.

"Morton has been called the 'Hero of Peace.' Why not quote Gilder's lines written under that title:

"'Unto the patriot's heart
The silent summons comes,
Not braver he who does his part
To the sound of beating drums.'

"I am almost sure I have seen him reading Gilder's

"'Twer best to calm the spirit's noble rage,
To live in dreams, or else high passion shun,
While round and round the aimless seasons run.'

"This is gentleman's poetry; and Morton is a gentleman, you know.

"I think I said that a sectional bias was not expected. So, therefore, I do not expect you to be surprised when I mention the name of Joachim Miller as Hill's favorite. Miller can sound the home note every time. He could sing 'Songs of the Seasons' as well as he has sung his 'Songs of the Sun-lands,' and each small event would have its polished word of praise.

"Suppose, to make the wildest jumps of supposition, that Hill were in the White House and that there should be a poet laureate, and that Joachim Miller—'Walkin' Miller, as they say—should be Laureate Suppose, next, that Hill should take a bride. Could not Joachim celebrate the event wonderfully well? Take those lines of his:

"She is sweet as the breath of a Castile rose,
She is warm to the heart as a world of wine,
And as rich to behold as the rose that grows
With its red heart bent to the tide of the Rhine.'

"Now, do you think any Presidential bridegroom would want a poem more dignified, more beautiful and more appropriate than those lines? Miller could do as well as this every time.

"I have always understood that Allison likes Thomas Bailey Aldrich. I do not state this by my own knowledge, but have heard that he did. I do not see why he should not. Each has the same diplomacy, each the same smoothness, each the same softness.

"Allison would want poems done upon the milder subject and in the milder veins. His vacation might be sung—his amusements, vacation time for the country, holiday trips, etc.

"Suppose the President were to go away. The country, always interested in his summer recuperation, looks for telegraphed notes regarding it. Would not poetic intelligence be even more thankfully received? Allison loves the seashore. Could not Aldrich write something like his verses:

"'Lying by the summer sea
I had a dream of Italy.
Chalky cliffs and miles of sand,
Mossy reefs and salty caves—
Then the sparkling emerald waves
Faded; and I seemed to stand
Myself a languid Florentine
In the heart of that fair land.'

"Or suppose, at the time of European travel, when all the world flies itself away, the President should take a little tour Inland, could not a few lines devoted to his love of his own climate and country be penned by Alrich:

"'Tho' I am native to this frozen zone
Which half the twelvemonth torpid lies
or dead:'

"And so on, to glorify the beauties of his native land. It is not to be expected that such lines would influence foreign travel, but they could not be without some effect in bringing about home appreciation.

"McKinley, I believe, likes the rougher 'farm' style of poem, as being light to comprehend and trending itself, as he says. He, I have it on good authority, likes Will Carleton:

"'Draw up yur papers, lawyer,
And make 'em good and stout;
For things at home are cross-ways,
And Betsy and I are out.'

"Or,

"'Some men were born for great things,
Some men were born for small,
Some it is not recorded
Why they were born at all.'

"This is not great poetry, but it slips easily on the tongue. It is the kind of poetry that more men like, I believe, like to read, as the popularity of Carleton's ballads demonstrate.

"Benjamin Harrison, in Indianapolis, likes, as he should like, a certain Indianapolis poet—James Whitcomb Riley. One little poem of Riley's, according to a very authentic gentleman who dines frequently with Harrison, pleases him. If Riley were the laureate this poem, or one like it, might be welcome Memorial Day, when tears are too plentiful:

"I was for Union—you agin it,
'Pears like to me each side was winner,
Lookin' at now, and all that's in it,
Let's go to dinner.
The war, you know, 's all done and ended,
An' 'ain't changed no p'ints o' compass,
Both North and South the health's just as splendid,
As 'fore the rumpus.'

"There's a genial spirit about that which warms the heart of Harrison. Riley stands a good chance of being laureate under such conditions. It might be thought that he could not touch upon all required points, but those who know his muse say he could. This verse upon Congress is a facetious one, but it shows what he might do with the knowledge of the wants of veterans so close to his tongue:

"'I ben down to the Capital at Washington, D. C.,
Where Congress meets and passes on
what pensions ort to be.
Allowed to old one-legged chaps like me,
at since the war
Don't wear their pants in pairs at all,
and yet how proud we are.'

"Riley can poetize upon anything.

"There are other poets and other Presidential possibilities. I have mentioned these few as illustrative of the poet laureate idea as I have heard it discussed. You see it would be possible right out of native material.

"How much more honorable is this than the deceptive offer to refund. I will guarantee my remedies to confash nothing harmful and to do what I claim. My 64-page book on "home treatment" sent free. Nothing sent C. O. D. without your instructions. Strictly confidential. Thirty years' experience. Address, DR. D. H. LOWE, Dept. 6, Winsted, Conn.

WILLIAM D. HOWELLS DECORATED AS LAUREATE.
(In Robe of Supreme Court Judge and Laurel.)

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD.

On the other side of the world, my dear,
There's a land that is free from care;
And often the laughter and seldom the tear;
And virtue is treasured there.
Discarded are dogmas for brotherly love,
And truth is a banner unfurled,
While justice and mercy go hand in glove—
On the other side of the world.

On the other side of the world, my dear,
There's a sky that is golden-hued;
And its brilliant dome, with its stars so clear,
With darkness is never imbued.
There's hope in the atmosphere there, my own,
And despair from its foothold is hurled,
And charity e'en to the lowest is shown—
On the other side of the world.

On the other side of the world, my dear,
I have sought for this vale of peace,
Where the din of life and its gibe and jeer
In the ears of the weary will cease;
But always I hear as I ask the way—
And the lips of the speakers are curled—
"You will find Utopia, so they say,
On the other side of the world."
—Arthur Chapman.

THE LATEST JOKES.

Funny Things the Comedians Are Saying at the New York Theaters.

William Henry Rice is a black face comedian at Proctor's Twenty-third street theater, says the New York World. He comes on in a tattered and torn linen duster.

"How d'ye do, girls," he begins. "I have been having some odd experiences recently. Why, do you know that at sixty minutes after seven last night I was so hungry I ate a clock!"

Marion and Pearl, a black-faced team, are at the same theater.

"I'm motorman on a Brooklyn trolley car, now," remarks Marion. "I ran across your brother at Fulton street the other day."

"What's your sister doing now?" asks Pearl.

"She's working in a rubber factory."

"Why, I heard she was bounced."

"That's all right, but do you know my sister dresses out of sight."

"Well, I hope so."

"I was once a lady barber," remarks Billie Barlow at Proctor's, "and I had a lively time of it. A customer with a four-days' beard came into the shop.

"How would you like to be shaved, sir?" I asked.

"In silence," he replied. "Now, wasn't that a nice thing to say to a lady?"

There are many quaint things said in "Shore Acres," now playing at the Fifth Avenue theater, but the audience always laugh at a remark of Joel Bates, the grass widower. He is an angular old farmer of serious mien. In the last act Helen Berry has returned from Montana with her husband and three months' old baby. It is Christmas eve, and all the Berrys are seated in the kitchen. Joel Bates, accompanied by his little girl, rushes in and shakes the snow from his shoulders. Mrs. Berry shows him the new baby. He looks at it a minute in surprise and then says:

"Whose is it? I hadn't heerd eny rumors."

In the third act of Excelsior Jr. at Olympia, Richard Carle and David Abrahams are walking off the stage.

"What's your hurry?" inquires Abrahams.

"I've got to catch a train. I'm going to the depew."

"Depew, you mean?"

"Depew."

"Daypo."

"Depew—I live on the New York Central."

Lydia Dreams is a ventriloquist at Proctor's Pleasure Palace. Her dummy says:

"Can you go to the opera with me?"

"Thank you. I should be glad to."

"Have you an engagement for next Tuesday?"

"I will have nothing at all on for Tuesday."

"Won't you take cold?"

Press Eldridge is doing his specialty at Koster & Bial's.

"This Sunday law is pretty tough on New Yorkers," he says; "now, I like to have a drink on Sunday, and don't care who knows it. But I haven't been able to get it. Last Sunday I went to the side door of my favorite saloon. It was locked, so was the front door, and I was just dying for a drink. Well, 'thank God,' I said, 'Sunday only comes once a week! Just then a Salvation Army troop came along, and blest if they weren't singing 'Every Day'll Be Sunday By and By.'"

"Cows won't give any milk now-a-days," says Haines to Pettingill, at Proctor's Pleasure Palace.

"How is that?"

"You have to take it from them."

"Well, see here, if you can make four white shirts from three yards, how many shirts will you get from one yard?"

"That depends upon whose yard you're in."

"Yes, I certainly believe that good wine assists nature," is a remark made by Harry Adam's dummy in her ventriloquism act.

"For my part," says the ventriloquist, "wine always makes a fool of me."

"That's what I say," chips in the dummy. "It assists nature."

Lew Benedict, made up as a colored stump orator, is at Proctor's.

"There's always been a dispute as to who was first created—man or woman," he says. "There ain't no room for doubt. Wasn't Eve the first mail?"

"You've all heard of cannibals," he continues. "They live on one another—just like our country relatives or mothers-in-law."

The Personal Pronoun.

Philadelphia Inquirer:—The new woman's revision of the scripture says that there is no sex in the Bible, and yet the new version always refers to the devil as "he." Is this giving the devil his due?

Linguistic Limitations.

In French she could only say "Oui."
And therefore it happened that shut
Very often would not
Give voice to her thought,
Whereat she would titter "Tut, hut."
—Detroit Tribune.

Finding Those Who Are Not Lost.

A law should be passed prohibiting snort and whoop reformers from saving people who are not lost.—Atchison Globe.

The skeleton in many a household is the peculiar weakness of the wife and mother, or of the wife who ought to be a mother and is not. Happiness is destroyed by the presence of the secret sickness that may lurk like a grinning death among the most luxurious homes. The most terrible thing about this condition of affairs is that it is entirely needless. There is no reason in the world why every woman in the world should not be strong and healthful and capable of fulfilling her whole duty as a wife and mother. Many women go on month after month, and year after year, becoming weaker and weaker, because of a very natural hesitancy they feel in consulting a physician. They know that if they go to a doctor for treatment, the first thing he will insist on will be examination" and "local treatment." This must of course be distasteful to every modest woman. They are generally as unnecessary as they are abhorrent. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures positively, perfectly, permanently, all varieties of "female weakness" and disease. It is designed to do this one thing, and it does it. It is the only medicine now before the public for any "female ailments," adapted to her delicate organization by a regularly graduated physician—an experienced and skilled specialist in these maladies. It cannot do harm in any condition of the system. Its sales exceed the combined sales of all other medicines for women.

Every woman will be healthier and happier for following the friendly, practical counsel contained in Dr. Pierce's great universal doctor book: "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser." It is the most comprehensive medical work in one volume in the English language. It contains 1008 pages, fully illustrated, 680,000 copies have been sold at $1.50 each bound in cloth. The profits are now used in printing half-a-million *free* copies bound in strong manilla paper covers. To get one you have only to send at one-cent stamps (to pay cost of mailing only) to World's Dispensary Medical Association, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Send promptly before all are given away if in want of one. They are going off rapidly.

Weak, Tired, Nervous

"I was feeling as miserable as any one could feel, tired all the time, many times unable to go out on the street even after I had started. If I went up one flight of stairs I felt as though I should fall. I had palpitation of the heart and suffered greatly with catarrh of the head and throat. I finally decided to try Hood's Sarsaparilla, and soon felt better. I used the third bottle and I then felt like a different person. I hope others in ill health will do as I did. If you take Hood's Sarsaparilla and use it faithfully I am sure you will be benefited. I have also found Hood's Pills to be of great benefit and I highly recommend them." MISS JESSIE FREMONT, Saddle River, N. J.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye today.

Hood's Pills cure habitual constipation. Price 25c. per box.

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TREATMENT FOR WEAK MEN.

Suffering from Wasting Vitality, Lost Vigor, Emissions, Varicocele and all kinds of Sexual Diseases. Why will you be deceived by free treatment offers which are but a decoy to entrap sufferers, and in the end prove to be the dearest of all treatments? Beware of these cure-alls (in a day) that are liable to contain opiates and other poisonous drugs which exhilarate and produce a spasmodic improvement but no lasting benefit. Read this liberal offer: Send me a full statement of your case with $5 by registered letter or money order and I will speedily prepare for you a full two months' treatment, or one months' treatment for $3, a 10 days' treatment $1. Just one-half my usual fee. If the $5 treatment fails to completely cure you I will treat you further free of charge. How much more honorable is this than the deceptive offer to refund. I will guarantee my remedies to confash nothing harmful and to do what I claim. My 64-page book on "home treatment" sent free. Nothing sent C. O. D. without your instructions. Strictly confidential. Thirty years' experience. Address, DR. D. H. LOWE, Dept. 6, Winsted, Conn.

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The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Catarrh in Cow.

J. W. E., Kansas: Your cow has catarrh that has become chronic, and will be hard to cure if the editor understands your letter correctly. Look into her nostrils and see if they are affected with polypus. If so have the growth cut away. Inject the nostrils with olive oil. Rub the throat and heart with mustard paste, and have the cow inhale the steam from a hot bran mash in a nose bag. As a medicine, give the following, which receipt may be found in the encyclopedia of live stock: Three drachms sulphate of iron, 2 drachms gentian, 1 drachm ginger, 1 drachm foenugreek seed, powdered. Give as one dose for about eight days. The cow must be kept away from damp stall or rain. You had better not allow your cow to drink from the same trough with other stock.

Silk Worm Culture.

G. W. S., Ohio: The editor is not sufficiently conversant with the methods of silk-worm culture to give you an intelligent idea. The United States government paid much attention to silk-worm culture and issued a pamphlet two or three years ago, which will no doubt be sent you, by addressing J. Sterling Morton, secretary of agriculture, Washington, D. C. In the year 1890 the government distributed 2,250 lots of silk-worm eggs in 42 states, and the result was on the whole satisfactory. In Philadelphia and Kansas the work was carried on quite extensively. The Ladies' Silk Culture Society, of California, carried on the work to a large extent at Fiedmont. The Ladies' Silk Culture Association of the United States has done much in the way of silk-worm culture. They carried on the work at Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. At Washington, D. C., the experiment of feeding silk-worms on leaves of the osage orange was tried, but it was not entirely satisfactory, so that you should have the mulberry tree to furnish food for the worms. If you will write a letter to F. D. Coburn, secretary of agriculture, Topeka, Kan., mentioning The Blade, he will very likely give you the information for which you ask.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Testing Eggs.

This is a very important process. Contrary to what some people expect, all eggs will not hatch. The percentage of a hatch is the number of chickens from the fertile eggs, not from the number of eggs placed in the machine. It occurs frequently that eggs are fertile, but the germ is so weak that it will seldom live after the 10th day. Eggs should be tested on the fourth or fifth day and again on the tenth day. Leghorn, Minorca and Houdan eggs can be tested satisfactorily 26 or 48 hours after placing them in the incubator, but Brahma and other dark-shelled eggs cannot be satisfactorily tested until the seventh day, unless one is an expert and a very good egg tester is used. A strong germ will show a small black spot with red veins radiating in all directions. Addled eggs will show cloudy detached black spots floating in the egg without any veins attached. A red circular line will be found in stale eggs. The latter must be found in stale eggs. The latter must be removed or foul odors will be the result. An unfertile egg is perfectly clear and will be nearly as good as fresh laid eggs for cooking purposes. On the tenth or twelfth day the chick begins to move and the egg-abecome more and more clouded. On the eighteenth day the egg is entirely opaque, except the small space called the air-cell. The latter varies in size according to the larger or smaller amount of moisture used during incubation. By setting eggs under a hen at the same time as eggs are set in incubators, and comparing them every few days, an excellent idea can be obtained of the proper size of this air-cell.

Hen Houses.

There is a constant inquiry for cheap hen houses. Scarcely any other inquiry comes so often to the editor of a paper that devotes a good deal of space to poultry.

Talmage's Sermon.

TEMPTATIONS THAT COME WITH THE SEASON.

Happy Homes and Their Influence Over Young Men—Some Timely Advice Given.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—Yesterday Dr. Talmage chose as the subject of his sermon, "The Opening Winter." Although the cold comes earlier or later, according to the latitude, this sermon is sooner or later as appropriate everywhere as it is in Washington. The text selected will be found in Titus iii. 12: "I have determined there to winter."

Paul was not independent of the seasons. He sent for his overcoat to Troas on a memorable occasion. And now in the text he is making arrangements for the approaching cold weather, and orders an appointment with Titus to mee him at Nicopolis, saying: "I have determined there to winter." Well this is the eighth day of December, and the second Sabbath of winter. We have had a few shrill, sharp blasts already, fore-runners of whole regiments of storms and tempest. No one here needs to be told that we are in the opening gates of winter. This season is not only a test of one's physical endurance, but in our great cities is a test of moral character. A vast number of people have by one winter of dissipation been destroyed and forever. Seated in our homes on some stormy night, the winds howling outside, we imagine the shipping helplessly driven on the coast, but any winter night, if our ears were good enough, we could hear the crash of a thousand moral shipwrecks. There are many people who came to the cities on the first of September who will be blasted by the first of March. At this season of the year temptations are especially rampant. Now that the long winter evenings have come, there are many who will employ them in high pursuits, in intelligent socialities, in Christian work, in the strengthening and ennobling of moral character, and this winter to many of you will be the brightest and best of all your lives, and in anticipation I congratulate you. But there is many now who have such effect, and I charge you, my beloved, look out where you spend your winter nights.

In the first place, I have to remark that at this season of the year evil allurements are especially busy. There is not very much temptation for a man to plunge in on a hot night amid blazing gaslights, and to breathe the fetid air of an assemblage, but in the cold nights Satan gathers a great harvest. At such times the casinos are in full blast. At such times the grogshops in one night make more than in four or five nights in summer. At such times the playbills of low places of entertainment seem especially attractive, and the acting is especially impressive, and the applause especially bewitching. Many a man who has kept right all the rest of the year will be capsized now, and, though last autumn he came from the country and there was luster in the eye, and there were roses in the cheek and elasticity in the step, by the time the spring hour has come you will pass him in the street, and say to your friend: "What's the matter with that man? How life-fearing he looks from what he looked last September." Slain of one winter's dissipation. At this time of the year there are many entertainments. If we rightly enjoy them, and they are of the right kind, they enlarge our socialities, allow us to make important acquaintance, build us up in our morals, and help us in a thousand ways. I can scarcely think of anything better than good neighborhood. But there are those entertainments from which others will come besoiled in character. There are those who by the springtime will be broken down in health, and though at the opening of the season their prospects were bright, at the close of the season they will be in the hands of the doctors or sleeping in the cemetery. The certificate of death will be made out, and the physician, to save the feelings of the family, will call the disease by a Latin name. But the doctor knows and everybody else knows, they died of too many levees. Away with these wine-drinking convivialities. How dare you, the father of a family, tempt the appetites of the young people? Perhaps at the entertainment, to save the feelings of the minister or some other weak temperance man, you leave the decanter in a side room, and only a few people are there to partake; but it is easy enough to know when you come out, by the glare of your eye, and the stench of your breath, that you have been serving the devil.

Men sometimes excuse themselves and say, after late suppers it is necessary to take some sort of stimulant to aid digestion. My plain opinion is that if you have no more self-control than to stuff yourselves until your digestive organs refuse their office, you had better not call yourself a man, but class yourself among the beasts that perish. At this season of the year the Young Men's Christian associations of the land send out circulars asking the pastors to speak a word on this subject, and so I sound in your ear the words of the Lord God Almighty: "Woe unto him that putteth the bottle to his neighbor's lips." Rejoice that you have come to the glad winter months that remind you of the times when in your childhood you were shone on by the face of father, mother, brothers, sisters, some of them alas! no more to meet you witha "Happy New Year," or a "Merry Christmas." But again and again have we seen on New Year's day the sons of some of the best families drunk, and young men have excused themselves by the fact that the wine cup has been offered by the ladies; and again and again it has been found out that a lady's hand has kindled the young man's thirst for strong drink, and long after the attractions of the holidays have passed that same woman crushes in her rags and her desolation and her woe under the unfilled hand of the drunken monster to whom she had passed the fascinating cup on New Year's day. If we want to go to ruin, let us go alone, and not take others with us. Can we not sacrifice our feelings, if need be? When the good ship London went down the captain was told that he might escape on one of the lifeboats. "No," he replied, "I'll go down with the passengers." All the world applauded his heroism. And can we not sacrifice our tastes and our appetites for the rescue of others? Surely it is not a very great sacrifice. Oh, mix not with the innocent beverage of the holiday the poison of adders! Mix not with the white sugar of the cup the snow of this awful leprosy! Mar not the clash of the cutlery of the festal occasion with the clank of a madman's chain. Pass down the street and look into the pawnbroker's window. Elegant watch, elegant chain, elegant scarf, elegant books, elegant mementos. You sometimes see people with pleased countenances looking into such a window. But when I look into a pawnbroker's window it seems to me as if I had looked into the window of hell! To whom did that watch belong? To a drunkard. To whom did those furs belong? To a drunkard's wife. To whom did those shoes belong? To a drunkard's child. I take the three brazen balls at the doorway of a pawnbroker's shop, and I clank them together, sounding the knell of the drunkard's soul. A pawnbroker's shop is only one of the eddies in the great torrent of municipal drunkenness. "Oh," says some one, "I don't patronize such things. I have destroyed no young men by such influences. I only take ale, and it will take a great amount of it to make me intoxicate." Yes, but I tell you there is not a drunkard in America that did not begin with ale. Three X's—I do not know what they mean. Three X's on the brewer's dray, three X's on the door of the gin shop, three X's on the side of the bottle. Three X's. I asked a man. He could not tell. I asked another what is the meaning of the three X's. He could not tell. Then I made up my mind that the three X's were an allegory, and that they meant thirty heartbreaks, thirty agonies, thirty broken-up households, thirty prospects of a drunkard's grave, thirty ways to perdition. Three X's. If I were going to write a story, the first chapter I would call Three X's and the last chapter I would call the pawnbroker's shop. Oh, beware of your influence.

The winter season is especially full of temptation, because of the long evenings allowing such full swing for evil indulgences. You can scarcely expect a young man to go to his room and sit there from 7 to 11 o'clock in the evening reading Motley's "Dutch Republic," or John Foster's essays. It would be a very beautiful thing for him to do, but he will not do it. The most of our young men are busy in offices, in factories, in banking houses, in stores, in shops, and when evening comes they want the fresh air, and they want sight-seeing and they must have it, they will have it, and they ought to have it. Most of them here assembled will have three or four evenings of leisure on the winter nights. After tea the man puts on his hat and coat, and he goes out.

One form of allurement says, "Come in here." Satan says, "It is best for you to go in; you ought not to be so green; by this time you ought to have seen everything," and the temptations shall be mighty in dull times such as we have had, but which, I believe, are gone; for I hear all over the land the prophecy of great prosperity, and the railroad men and the merchants, they tell me of the days of prosperity they think are coming, and in many departments they have already come, and they are going to come in all departments; and those dull times through which we have passed have destroyed a great many men. The question of a livelihood is with a vast multitude the one question. There are young men who expected before this to set up their household, but they have been disappointed in the gains they have made. They cannot support themselves, how can they support others? and, to the curse of modern society, the theory is abroad that a man must not marry until he has achieved a fortune, when the twain ought to start at the foot of the hill and together climb to the top. That is the old-fashioned way, and it will be the new-fashioned way if society is ever redeemed. But during the hard times, the dull times, so many men were discouraged, so many men had nothing to do they could get nothing to do—a pirate bore down on the ship when the sails were down and the vessel was making no headway. People say I do want more time to think. The trouble is, too many people have had too much time to think, and if our merchants had not had their minds diverted, many of them would long before this have been within the four walls of an insane asylum. These long winter evenings, be careful where you spend them. This winter will decide the temporal and eternal destiny of hundreds of men in this audience.

Then, the winter has especial temptations in the fact that many homes are peculiarly unattractive at this season. In the summer months the young man can sit out on the steps, or he can have a bouquet in the vase on the mantel, or, the evenings being so short, soon after twilight he wants to retire anyhow. But there are many parents who do not understand how to make the long winter evenings attractive to their children. It is amazing to me that so many old people do not understand young people. To hear some of these parents talk you would think they had never themselves been young, and had been born with spectacles on. Oh, it is dolorous for young people to sit in the house from 7 to 11 o'clock at night, and to hear parents groan about their ailments and the nothingness of this world. The nothingness of this world! How dare you talk such blasphemy? It took God six days to make this world, and he has allowed it six thousand years to hang upon his holy heart, and this world has shone on you and blessed you and caressed you for these fifty or seventy years, and yet you dare talk about the nothingness of this world. Why, it is a magnificent world. I do not believe in the whole universe there is a world equal to it, except it be heaven. You can not expect your children to stay in the house these long winter evenings to hear you denounce this star-lighted, sun-warmed, shower-baptized, flower-strewn, angel-watched, God-inhabited planet.

Oh! make your home bright. Bring in the violin or the picture. It does not require a great salary or a big house, or chased silver, or gorgeous upholstery to make a happy home. All that is wanted is a father's heart, a mother's heart, in sympathy with young folks. I have known a man with seven hundred dollars' salary, and he had no other income, but he had a home so happy and bright, that, though the sons have gone out and won fortunes, and the daughters have gone out into splendid spheres, and became princesses of society, they can never think of that early home without tears of emotion. It was to them the vestibule of heaven, and all their mansions now, and all their palaces now, can not make them forget that early place. Make your homes happy.

You go around your house growling about your rheumatism and acting the ungodliness, and your sons will go into the world and plunge into dissipation. They will have their own rheumatisms after awhile. Do not forestall their misfortunes. You were young once, and you had your bright and joyous times. New let the young folks have a good time. I stood in front of a house and I said to the owner of the house: "This is a splendid tree." He said, in a whining tone, "Yes, but it will fade." I walked around in his garden and said: "This is a glorious garden you have." "Yes," he said, "but it will perish." Then he said to my little child, whom I was leading along: "Come and kiss me." The child protested and turned away. He said: "Oh, the perversity of human nature!" Who would want to kiss him? I was not surprised to find out that his only son had become a vagabond. You may groan people out of decency, but you can never groan them into it, and I declare in the presence of these men and women of common sense that it is a most important thing for you to make your homes bright if you want your sons and daughters to turn out well.

Alas! that old people so much misunderstand young folks! There was a great Sunday school anniversary, and there were thousands of children present; indeed, all the Sunday schools of the town were in the building, and it was very uproarious and full of disturbance, and the presiding officer on the occasion came forward, and in a very loud tone shouted, "Silence!" and the more noise the presiding officer made, the more noise the children made. Some one else rose on the platform and came forward, and with more stentorian voice shouted, "Silence!" and the uproar rose to greater height, and it did seem as if there would be almost a riot and the police have to be called in, when old Doctor Beaman, his hair white as the driven snow, said: "Let me try my hand." So he came forward with a slow step to the front of the platform, and when the children saw the veteran man and the white hair, they thought they would hush up that instant, and hear what the old man had to say. He said: "Boys, I wanted to make a bargain with you. If you will be still now while I speak, who will get to be as old as I am I will be as still as a mouse." There was not another whisper that afternoon. He was as much a boy as any of them. Oh, in these approaching holidays, let us turn back our natures to what they were years ago, and be boys again and girls again, and make all our homes happy.

God will hold you responsible for the influence you now exert, and it will be very bright and very pleasant if some winter night, when we are sleeping under blankets of snow, our children shall ride along in the merry party, and hushing a moment into solemnity, look off and say: "There sleep the best father and mother that ever man had a happy new year." Arm yourself against these temptations of December, January, and February. Temptations will come to you in the form of an angel of light. I know that the poets represent Satan as horned and hoofed. If I were a poet and were going to picture Satan, I would represent him as a human being, with manners polished to the last perfection, hair falling in graceful ringlets, eye a little bloodshot, but floating in bewitching languor, hand soft and diamonded, foot exquisitely shaped, voice mellow as a flute, breath perfumed as though nothing had ever touched the lips but balm of a thousand flowers, conversation facile, carefully toned and Frenchy. But I would have the heart incased with the scales of a monster, and have it stuffed with all pride and loustiness of desire and hypocrisy and death, and then I would have it touched with the rod of disenchantment until the eyes became the cold orbs of the adder, and to the lip should come the foam of raging intoxication, and to the foot the spring of the panther, and to the soft hand the change that would make it the clammy hand of the wasted skeleton, and then I would suddenly have the heart break out in unquenchable flames, and the affected lisp of the tongue become the hiss of the worm that never dies. But until disenchanted, ringleted and diamonded, and flute-voiced, and conversation facile, carefully toned and Frenchy.

Oh, what a beautiful thing it is to see a young man standing up amid these temptations of city life incorrupt while hundreds are falling. I will tell your history. You will move in respectable circles all your days, and some day a friend of your father will meet you and say: "Good morning; glad to see you. You seem to be prospering; you look like your father for all the world; I thought you would turn out well, when I used to hold you on my knee. You never went into any bad company." Or, says some one, "I don't patronize such things. I have destroyed no young men by such influences. I only take ale, and it will take a great amount of it to make me intoxicate." Yes, but I tell you there is not a drunkard in America that did not begin with ale. Three X's—I do not know what they mean. Three X's on the brewer's dray, three X's on the door of the gin shop, three X's on the side of the bottle. Three X's. I asked a man. He could not tell. I asked another what is the meaning of the three X's. He could not tell. Then I made up my mind that the three X's were an allegory, and that they meant thirty heartbreaks, thirty agonies, thirty broken-up households, thirty prospects of a drunkard's grave, thirty ways to perdition. Three X's. If I were going to write a story, the first chapter I would call Three X's and the last chapter I would call the pawnbroker's shop. Oh, beware of your influence.

UNTOLD MISERY FROM RHEUMATISM

C. H. King, Water Valley, Miss., cured by Ayer's Sarsaparilla

"For five years, I suffered untold misery from muscular rheumatism. I tried every known remedy, consulted the best physicians, visited Hot Springs, Ark., three times, spending $1000 there, besides doctors' bills; but could obtain only temporary relief. My flesh was wasted away so that I weighed only ninety-three pounds; my left arm and leg were drawn out of shape, the muscles

being twisted up in knots. I was unable to dress myself, except with assistance, and could only hobble about by using a cane. I had no appetite, and was assured, by the doctors, that I could not live. The pains, at times, were so awful, that I could procure relief only by means of hypodermic injections of morphine. I had my limbs bandaged in clay, in sulphur, in poultices; but these gave only temporary relief. After trying everything, and suffering the most awful tortures, I began to take Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Inside of two months, I was able to walk without a cane. In three months, my limbs began to strengthen, and in the course of a year, I was cured. My weight has increased to 165 pounds, and I am now able to do my full day's work as a railroad blacksmith."

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Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

WAS SHE MARY STUART?

THE DUCHESS OF POMAR CLAIMED TO BE HER REINCARNATION.

Since the Death of Mme. Blavatsky She Had Been the Head of the English Theosophists.

An extraordinary and picturesque career came to an end in Paris a few days ago with the death of the lady who, in the Scotch peerage, bore the title of the Countess of Caithness, and who, by papal creation, enjoyed the additional dignity of Duchess of Pomar. Nor were these her sole credentials to social consideration. On her mother's side she was a great granddaughter of the Marquis of Normandy. She inherited from her first husband, the Duke of Pomar, the cross of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre. To this the Queen of Spain added the Order of Marie Louise. And to back up all this titular and decorative grandeur she possessed unusual beauty, vivacity, charm and intelligence, and enjoyed an income of over $100,000 a year. Nature seemed to have fitted her for a social leader, says the New York Herald.

But mere social leadership was not to her taste. She had higher aims in life. She wished to take a leadership in the world of thought. She flew in the face of the world of fashion by the most remarkable eccentricities of

LADY CAITHNESS, DUCHESS OF POMA.

character and conduct. A poet and a mystic by temperament, she cast her lot with the theosophists, and on the death of Mme. Blavatsky became the recognized head of the London Theosophical Society.

From her earliest years she displayed great seriousness of character and energy. Her father was a Spanish aristocrat, Juan de Maitegui. She was born in Madrid about the year 1825. While still in her first youth she married the General and Count de Medina Pomar, a gentleman who had served in the Spanish war of succession and who some time afterward purchased a dukedom from Pope Pius IX. When the Duchess became a widow she continued to bear the title by a special stipulation made with the pope, her son inheriting the title of Duke. Most of her married life had been spent in Cuba, where her husband possessed a large property.

After the death of her first husband the Duchess removed to England to be near her son, a handsome, dark eyed youth of sixteen, whom she had placed at Beaumont College, Windsor. Four years later she married Lord Barrogill, fourteenth Earl of Caithness, and chief of the clan of Sinclair. No two temperaments could have been more different. The Earl's was a positive mind, fond of the practical side of science. The new countess was full of romance and mysticism.

In 1872 she accompanied her husband to the United States. The couple spent over a year in New York. Here she became deeply interested in Spiritualism, an interest which was deepened and strengthened by an acquaintance then formed with Mme. Blavatsky.

The turning point of her career, however, came in London in 1878. At one of the meetings of the occult White Cross society she heard a lecture delivered by the American spiritualist, Mrs. Fletcher, who claimed to be under the special control of the spirit of Mary, Queen of Scots, and who, under the direction of that spirit, had founded the society. The seat of the Caithness earldom was in the vicinity of Holyrood, where Queen Mary lies buried. A long line of dead and gone Earls of Caithness are likewise buried in the royal mausoleum of that palace, by right of their descent from Robert Bruce and their kinship to the Stuarts. Nothing more was needed to inflame the impressionable imagination of the countess. On the storied spot she sought direct spiritual communion with the illustrious shade. Her experience is related in a little book called "A Night at Holyrood."

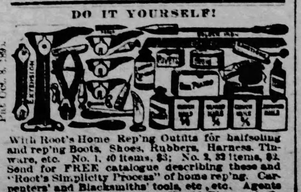
That night was a most eventful one. As the clocks in Edinburg town below were striking twelve, the spirit of Mary, "gloriously beautiful," appeared to the anxious seeker and held converse with her until cockcrow. The queen encouraged the theosophist to continue her efforts toward the securing of equal rights for women, promising to watch over these efforts and to aid them. Thereafter Lady Caithness alluded to Queen Mary as her spiritual guide. Eventually she came to look upon herself as a reincarnation—an avatar. And whose avatar should she be but that of Mary, Queen of Scots? This idea did not take complete control of her mind until after the death of the earl in 1881. Then she had her widow's weeds exactly copied from pictures of the martyred queen.

Yet she could not be called insane. Despite her vagaries she was a brilliant woman of the world, a clever writer and a close, if not very deep or accurate, student. A book which she published in 1887, "The Mystery of the Ages Contained in the Secret Doctrine of All Religions," showed a certain quota of originality and thought, joined with a lamentable ability at self-deception. Theosophists hold it second only to Mme. Blavatsky's "Isis Unveiled." It is a review of all religions and an earnest effort to trace in them as fundamental concepts the esoteric doctrines of her own mushroom sect. Her son, who lived with her and is cited in the Faubourg St. Germain as an unusual instance of filial devotion, is likewise an author, and has produced a number of novels. His eccentricities of dress and habits, his affability and charm of manner, show him to be a true son of his mother.

BABY MINE.

A little plate, a little chair,
A little fork and spoon are there;
But the child which was wont to fill the chair,
The blue-eyed child with the golden hair,
Is gone.
But weep not—the child is always hunky;
It's been sent to bed for being spunky.
—Puck.

DO IT YOURSELF!



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The Sunday School.

The Birth of Christ.

LESSON XII., DECEMBER 22, 1895.

Golden Text: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy.—Luke 2:10.

(Luke 2:8-20. Memory verses: 9-11.)

8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15. And it came to pass, as the angels were going away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Illustrative Applications.

There were shepherds abiding in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock (v. 8). There is nothing better than duty doing, day or night. Whether it be sleeping or waking, caring for a sick child, or watching over property that is in danger, the best thing to do is to do what ought to be done. And when one is doing his duty he is in the place of usefulness, and at the post of honor. If God wants a man for special work, he will call a man who is already where he belongs, whether that man be a king or a shepherd. If he wants a shepherd he will not look for him in a palace, but in a sheep pasture. If he wants a king, he will not look for him in a sheep pasture, but in a palace. If you want to serve God or to please God, be at your place of duty by day or by night.

An angel of the Lord stood by them, and they were sore afraid (v. 9). We are more likely to be afraid when there is no reason for it than when there is very good reason. We are likely to be afraid of God than of the devil. We do not think of the danger of doing harm to our own suls, or to the souls of those who trust us, so often as we do of the danger of being harmed by God's neglect of us, or by his doing something that we wish he would not do. Perils are on every side of us all the time, from moral and spiritual forces; yet we are comparatively unconcerned about these. When, however, physical forces threaten us, like earthquakes, cyclones, lightning, fire, or flood, we are inclined to forget that these are all God's messengers, subject to his control, and we are likely to be sore afraid. How much like the Bethlehem shepherds we are in this thing.

Be not afraid. There is born to you this day a Savior, which is Christ the Lord (vs. 10, 11). What folly it would be to be afraid of the best news that ever came to the world! All of us need a Savior, and when God sends a special messenger to tell us that a Savior has come to the world, we are glad tidings and should be welcomed heartily. But when we are told that the Savior is our Savior, there is added cause for joy. There would be a tinge of sadness even in the good news of a Savior of the world, if we were in doubt whether we were included in his mission. But now there is no doubt as to this. The promise is specific: "There is born to you this day a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God (v. 13). There is an interest in heaven in the fact that a Savior is born to us. It would be strange indeed if we ourselves had no interest in this fact. Yet it is doubtless true that God and the heavenly host have more concern for us than we have for ourselves. Of this we can rest assured. God loves us more than we love ourselves. God loves our dear ones more than we do. God wants us to be saved. God rejoices more than we do in our acceptance of salvation. When we take as our own the best gift that God has to give to the universe, we wake anew the praises of the heavenly host to God's glory and to the good of his loved ones.

When they saw it, they made known concerning the saying which was spoken to them about this child (v. 17). Good news ought to be told to those whom it most concerns. A cure for disease ought to be shown to the sick. A way of escape ought to be pointed out to the imperiled. Water ought not to be hidden from the famishing. Food ought not to be concealed from the hungry. Salvation for the lost belongs to the lost. He who knows of it has a duty to make it known to others. It is as much our duty to tell the good tidings of a Savior for the lost as it was the duty of the Bethlehem shepherds. And the world's need is now as real as it was then.—H. Clay Trumbull in Sunday School Times.

The voice of the dealer was mellow and soft,
As SOZODONT'S equal he praised very oft
Some stuff that he had in his store.
But he couldn't convince her, and she,
one fine day,
For fear he'd talk her to death, walked away,
And thenceforth avoided that bore.

GOVERNOR M'KINLEY'S MOTHER.

Her Conversation With a Railroad Conductor.

"While on one of my runs from Chicago to Pittsburg I observed an elderly lady seated all alone in my car, and, seeing that she was endeavoring in vain to adjust the window near her seat, I proffered my assistance," said a Pullman conductor in the Pittsburg Commercial Gazette.

"There were no other passengers in the car, and after fixing the window I dropped into an adjoining seat and engaged in conversation with the old lady. The conversation drifted from one subject to another until I happened to mention the fact that, before entering the railway service, I had been engaged in business at Columbus, O. The old lady remarked that she had a son who was living in Columbus, I said to her. It is quite likely that I know your son. I was in business in Columbus a great many years, and have a very large acquaintance with its people.

"'No,' said she, 'you will scarcely know him, as he has only been in Columbus a few years.'

"'But,' said I, 'I am still a frequent visitor there, and may have met him.'

"The old lady made no answer to this, turning her face, looked out of the car window. I finally ventured to ask if he was engaged in any business. The old lady half turned her face and said: 'Well, yes; my son is engaged in business,' and again she turned her eyes to the hills and fields. I thought I could observe a slight shade of color creeping into the old lady's pale cheeks, and as I pressed my inquiries about her son I thought she showed signs of slight embarrassment. At last I ventured to ask: 'In what kind of business is your son engaged?'

"For a moment the old lady did not reply. She looked around at last; the blood had mounted to her cheeks until she was blushing like a school girl.

"'My son just now,' she said, 'is governor of Ohio.'

"The information could not have been more modestly given had William McKinley been but an humble clerk in a dry goods store."

FREE TO INVALID LADIES.

A lady who suffered for years with uterine troubles, displacements, leucorrhœa and other irregularities, finally found a safe and simple home treatment that completely cured her without the aid of medical attendance. She will send it free with full instructions how to use it, to any sufferer sending name and address to Mrs. L. RUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

THE NEW WOMAN'S WAIST.

PRACTICAL REFORMS IN CORSETS OF THE LAST TWO YEARS.

Improvements That Benefit Comfort and Health—Athletics Not Likely to Drive Out Corsets.

The tendency among women to take up physical culture and athletics has not driven out corsets, but it has done much to improve them. In speaking on this subject a woman who has had many years of experience as an importer and manufacturer of fine corsets, and was appointed by the board of lady managers to act as judge of corsets at the World's Fair, said to a New York Sun reporter:

"American women have become more and more practical in their demands regarding corsets during the past two years, and as a consequence American manufacturers have advanced very rapidly in the construction of artistic and perfect fitting stays

THE ATHLETIC CORSET.

that do not mould the figure of a woman and press it into shape, but conform to the natural lines and curves of her body. Indoor and outdoor sports have taught women that if a corset constructed on such principles is worn, it serves the purpose for which it was intended, that of supporting the body, and proves a help rather than such a hindrance as the corset built to compress a waist so that it could be spanned. Five years ago there was a great demand for No. 16 and 17 corsets. Now they are not made, and the majority of women go so far as to say that a very small waist is vulgar. The best corset for women who indulge in athletic sports is made of elastic, and is cut off straight all around under the arms. The upper part is entirely independent of the body, and is made of hand-knit silk. Some women have only six or seven pieces of whalebone put in, while others prefer as many as ten. Sometimes it is made as long as an ordinary corset, at other times it reaches to the waist line. This corset yields with every movement of the body without getting out of place, whereas an ordinary health waist, if worn loose enough to prove beneficial, persists in rolling up about the wearer's waist, and, if laced up tight enough to be kept down, loses its advantage from a hygienic standpoint.

"Both styles come laced or buttoned behind or in front to suit the fancy of the purchaser, and have only the one object in view.

"But how could a woman lace up a corset behind on herself?" was the next question. "Would she not have to have a maid?"

"No, indeed," was the laughing response. "Many women who do all of their own work wear this corset. As it is made of elastic the wearer is able to pull it around in front, lace or button it, twist the garment around and slip her arms through the knitted armholes, and there she is, encased in an easy, comfortable corset, with very few whalebones in it. The cheapest

THE OPEN-WORK CORSET.

corset made in this style is $5, and that is the short one; it ranges from that price up to $20, which buys one made of pure silk-finished elastic and elaborately embellished.

"A great many women wish to wear a very long corset, and cannot, because when they sit down it binds them too much. A corset is made specially for just such persons and is lengthened at the bottom by means of a wide band of imported elastic, which holds the form in, and yields sufficiently to allow the wearer to assume a graceful and comfortable sitting posture. This corset often helps to reduce large hips, if constantly worn. However, a corset specially constructed for a woman with abnormally large hips and abdomen is long in front and presses down the abdomen very firmly. The gores are made so as to give sufficient spring in the back, which keeps the flesh from crowding below the corset on the hips, as is often the case. This is really a boon to women thus afflicted.

"The bicycling craze has brought out a variety of corsets specially adapted to this sport, and some of them are perfect, while most have their good points. One of the best is moderately long in front and exceedingly short on the hips, where it has two gores of elastic, which give with every movement of the legs. Another corset for the woman with a very short figure, who wishes to gain as much length as possible, is 10 1-2 inches in front and 8 inches under the arms. It has a large hook on the hips and in front, fully three inches below the waist line, and to these the skirts are fastened instead of taking up the waist line. Still another, of similar style, is only nine inches in front and six under the arms. A short, closely woven corset, containing several hundred whalebones, is quite popular with wheelwomen. They say it is as soft as an old rag, but no woman who has ever ridden in the corset first described will ever wnt to ride in any other.

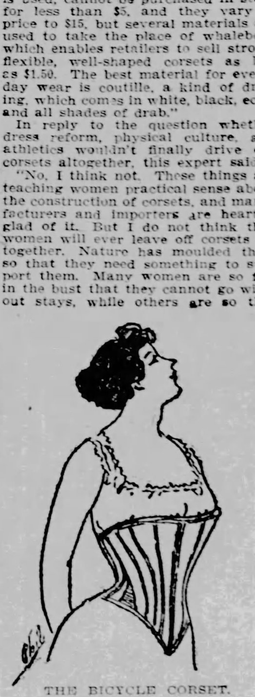
"Corsets for evening wear are cut quite high under the arm, but low in the front and right in the middle of the back. They retain their height at the shoulder blades and side of the bust and the gores of the bust are put proportionately low. One of the favorite materials for evening wear is batiste, though satin, china silk, brocade, and peau de soie are extensively used. They are trimmed in ribbon and lace, according to fancy.

"Women have learned another thing in the past few years, and that is, how to stand correctly. The time was when a woman would go to be measured for a corset. 'Stand straight,' the measurer would command, and back her shoulders would go, and out her bust and abdomen would protrude. Often it would take nearly an hour to get a woman to assume a correct position. Now just say, 'stand straight,' and she falls into an easy, graceful pose, and the work of taking her measurements lasts less than five minutes. Athletics have done this. The children in the public schools are also being taught to stand correctly, and it is not only a great thing for them, but for the people destined to make their corsets.

"As corsets have advanced in construction, they have decreased in price. This is because our own manufacturers have learned to make a first-class article at small cost. Real good corsets, in which genuine whalebone is used, cannot be purchased in stock for less than $5, and they vary in price to $15, but several materials are used to take the place of whalebone which enables retailers to sell strong, flexible, well-shaped corsets as low as $1.50. The best material for every-day wear is coutille, a kind of drilling, which comes in white, black, ecru, and all shades of drab."

In reply to the question whether dress reform, physical culture, and athletics wouldn't finally drive out corsets altogether, this expert said:

"No, I think not. These things are teaching women practical sense about the construction of corsets, and manufacturers and importers are heartily glad of it. But I do not think that women will ever leave off corsets altogether. Nature has moulded them so that they need something to support them. Many women are so full in the bust that they cannot go without stays, while others are so thin



THE BICYCLE CORSET.

that they have absolutely no curves except those given to them by a corset. Again very stout women look much better without corsets, and women are always going to be women, no matter how much they run, jump, play tennis, row, swing dumbbells, and ride bicycles; they aren't going to give up any garment that increases their feminine charms."

MAY LIVE WITH HER NOW.

A New Jersey Farmer's Vow Which the Election Releases.

The following was told by the St. Louis Globe-Democrat before the late election. Now that New Jersey has a Republican governor, Mr. Strong is probably again living with his wife, as his strange vow has been accomplished by fate:

Possibly the most remarkable resolution made during the Blair-Randolph fight in New Jersey years ago was by Gilbert Strong, a farmer in Cape May county. "Gib," as he was familiarly called, had a wife, who was and is a woman with a mind of her own. She had her political views, and wasn't afraid to express them. She was a Democrat; Gib was a Republican. The discussions were frequent between this man and his wife, and they were as choleric as they could have been between two men.

One day while at table, Mr. and Mrs. Strong got into a political discussion, and Mrs. Strong stood up bravely for Randolph and his principles. Gib as warmly argued for Blair. One word brought on another, and finally Gib said:

"Lizzie, you hadn't ought to cross me in politics this way. I'm the boss of the house, and if you don't agree with me you ought to keep quiet."

"I've got just as good a right to my opinion as you have to yours, Gilbert," replied Mrs. Strong, calmly, "and I'm going to keep them."

Gib's temper got the best of him then and there, and he said:

"All right, Libby; if Randolph is elected I'll live by myself, for I couldn't enjoy myself while you were crowin' over me."

Mrs. Strong made no reply, and there the matter stood till the day after the election, when the news came that Randolph was elected. That evening Strong kissed his wife good-by, after telling her that he was bound to keep his word.

He was a man of considerable means and he had an unpretentious house built on the farm, in which he took up his residence, and there he has eaten and slept ever since. Mrs. Strong has done everything possible for her to do to get him to live in the house with her, but he has refused, saying that he wouldn't do it until the Republicans elected a governor.

Strong and his wife are now bordering on 60 years of age, and they are as devoted to each other as ever. Strong carries on the farm and his wife carries her share of the burden, but beyond speaking, their relations have ceased. They are childless. Mrs. Strong has waived her political preferences, and says she will be satisfied if she can get Gib back to the old home.

A Cough, Cold or Sore Throat should not be neglected. Brown's BRONCHIAL TROCHES are a simple remedy, and give prompt relief. 25 cts a box.

SALT FOR THE SICK ROOM.

Eases Neuralgia, Cleans Carpets and Preserves Health.

Common salt as a cleaner beats many of the new chemical cleansers. Specially useful is salt in reviving the color of a worn carpet. For this purpose common salt should be procured and sprinkled thickly over the carpet. A Brussels carpet should first be well brushed and shaken on short grass, and dragged, when the dust is removed, face downward, across the lawn, to cleanse the surface. Then turn it and the salt must be applied, leaving it for six or seven hours to lie on the surface of the carpet. The rings and spots on polished tables, caused by hot teapots, wet vases, etc., can be removed by rubbing in a mixture of salt and salad oil, which forms an excellent furniture polish also.

Children should have an ample supply of salt mixed with their food. The poorer classes rarely eat enough salt from ignorance of its value; it may be that the impure blood, causing sores on the face, etc., which is so common among poorer children, arises from this, among other causes.

Dense Water.

Expert hydrographers say that in its deepest parts the ocean's waters are so dense that a sunken ironclad would never reach the bottom.—Detroit Free Press.

The Advanced Women.

"Why do you men like the clubs so well? Is it because they are so homelike?"

"It is because they are not homelike."—Life.

FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 30 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P. O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

WEAK MEN CURED AS IF BY MAGIC!

Victims of Lost Manhood should send at once for a book that explains how full manly vigor is easily, quickly and permanently restored. No man suffering from weakness can afford to ignore this timely advice. Book tells how full strength, development and tone are imparted to every portion of the body. Sent with positive proofs (sealed) free to any man on application.

ERIE MEDICAL CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

PLAYS Dialogues, Speakers, Magic Tricks

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1895.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 100,000

NEW GENERAL ATLAS OF THE WORLD.

We will send the Weekly Blade one year and the ten parts of Rand, McNally & Co.'s new General Atlas of the World, containing 157 map pages, for $1.50. Each map has a marginal index showing subdivisions, counties, etc., alphabetically arranged, with total population, classified as to sex, nativity, race and color, with population of cities, towns and villages, all arranged according to size.

See advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

This splendid Atlas will make a most acceptable Christmas gift. Order in time for it to reach you before the 25th.

A CALL TO DUTY.

The Republican press of the country is awaking to a realization of the fact that the present Congress must act on the tariff and revenue question. It will not do to neglect the specific demand of the majority of the voters of the nation, who placed the Republicans overwhelmingly in control of the present House—the body in which, by constitutional provision, all measures for raising revenue must originate.

The Cleveland World has a column article on the duty of the Republican majority, from which we make the following ringing extract:

There are at least two undisputed characteristics of the Republican party. It has always fulfilled its promises and has always secured the confidence of the business men and protected the business interests of the country. Every pledge it made at its very origin, when it nominated Fremont, has been carried out and redeemed. As far as they now can, the people of the country have engaged it and reassigned it to take care that the republic receives no further injury. It is dominant in the House of Representatives to-day for that purpose.

The Republican party was not re-elected by the people of the country to complete Democratic legislation or carry out Democratic laws. If the country had wanted that done it would have elected Democrats to do it. The Republicans were deliberately selected to reenact the former measures that the Dmocrats injured or wiped out. The Republicans must do this wisely and with moderation, but they must do it.

Should the President's obstinacy or convictions stand in the way then he and those who elected him President, and not the Republican party, will be responsible. Judging from his silence on the subject in his message, his convictions were left behind at Gray Gables, and perhaps even his obstinacy has been darned into neutrality. He might at least allow Republican measures to pass as he did the act of "perfidy and dishonor"—by letting it become a law without his signature.

The Chicago Journal Press takes the same line. It vigorously opposes the do-nothing policy apparent at Washington, in the following well-timed argument:

To enact legislation for the relief of the treasury is the pressing duty of the Republican party in Congress. It has been said, and, through inference, by Speaker Reed, himself, that the presence of a Democrat in the White House precludes the possibility of such legislation becoming law and bearing fruit. Therefore, the supporters of the theory conclude, it were wiser to do nothing.

The conclusion is false. With the fate of a tariff measure passing both house and going to the President, Congress has nothing to do till the measure be returned with or without the signature of the chief executive.

There may be a belief that the President will veto a certain bill. What of it? It is but a belief. If the country wants that bill enacted into law, the duty of Congress and the President is to enact it. The belief that the President will fail in his duty is no excuse for Congress, or either house, to shirk its responsible duty.

The party which the Republicans in Congress were chosen by their constituents to play, is one of action. And that holds true with Speaker Reed and every other presidential candidate as well as with the rest of the national legislators. There is a dim suspicion in the minds of many, that fear of mistakes, with consequent interference on his chances of nomination in the national convention, has had not a little to do with Speaker Reed's seeming advocacy of a do-nothing policy.

The fear is unworthy of Mr. Reed. Let him cast it out, remembering that the people of this country will more readily forgive the sins of bold commission than of omission through fear, particularly in a situation like the present.

CONTESTED SEATS.

A number of contested election cases are before the House of Representatives for adjudication. The majority in that body is so large that all temptation is removed of resorting to unfair methods, in order to secure more seats. There is, fortunately, nothing to do but to decide each case purely on its merits, without any regard to the political affiliations of either contestor or contestee.

However, the method of settling such disputes is radically defective. The constitutional provision is that each house of Congress shall be the sole judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own membership. This was copied from the practice in England, and probably without any practical discussion. There was a good reason for it in that country, when it was established as a parliamentary rule. Two or three centuries ago, when the courts were the creatures of the sovereign, it was necessary that the House of Commons should be the sole judge of the election of its own members, in order that England might have representative government at all.

But England has outgrown the necessity of such a provision. The sovereign is a mere figure-head, and the real power is in the Commons. That body long ago abandoned the old practice, and disputed elections thereto are now settled by the courts. There never was any need of such an unfair provision in the United States, and contested election cases should be decided by some equity tribunal, instead of being left to the decision of the House, which is prone to decide them on political grounds rather than in accord with justice and equity.

As the present method is a part of the constitution, it can not be entirely abolished without an amendment thereto; but it is possible to pass an act authorizing the courts to pass upon the prima facie rights of the two claimants to a seat, which decision could be ratified by the House. A bill for this purpose was introduced in the last House, but was not acted upon. It ought to be revived in the present body.

Ingersoll as yet shows no evidences of repentance.

A NEW MENACE TO TEMPERANCE EFFORT.

As the readers of The Blade well know, the modern processes of distillation do not produce whisky as the result. An article of spirits, containing a much larger quantity of alcohol is the product; this is diluted with water, and different articles added to give it body, color, and other qualities prized by those who make it a beverage. "Brandy" is also made from the raw spirits in the same way.

Now comes a scientific discovery which promises to enormously cheapen the cost of production of alcohol. Of course alcohol can be used as the basis of whisky and other distilled liquors, even more advantageously than the raw spirits now produced. The volume of water added has to be greater, with the drugs to give it the distinctive color, taste, smell, etc., as at present. The alcohol made by the new process is said to be entirely free from fusil oil and other deleterious substances contained in the alcohol manufactured in the old way through the ordinary method of fermentation and distillation. Alcohol of the finest quality may now, it is said, be made for about 28 cents a gallon, and it is expected that when the new apparatus for producing it is perfected the cost of production may be still further reduced.

This new method is the result of the discovery of the new cheap method of producing acetylene gas in large quantities. Calcium carbide and pieces of zinc are placed in a closed vessel, into which water acidulated with sulphuric acid is allowed to enter. Chemical action is set up, and large volumes of acetylene gas and of hydrogen are given off. These at once combine to form ethylene, which is carried off by a pipe, and passes through a series of glass tubes and bulbs through which circulates a stream of hot sulphuric acid. The reaction between the acid and the ethylene produces ethyl-sulphuric acid, which is made to flow into a third flask containing water. This water is kept in a state of ebullition which decomposes the ethyl-sulphuric acid into alcohol and sulphuric acid. The alcohol volatilizes with the water and is separated from it by virtue of the difference between the condensing points, the alcohol condensing in a separate refrigerator at a strength between 90 and 96 per cent., and entirely free from any impurities but water.

It is predicted for this new enterprise that it will become of great industrial importance. Liquors can be produced at a price far below the present cost. But what will be the effect on the public? Will it follow in this case, as it does in others, that cheapening a product increases its consumption? If whisky is made cheaper, will the drinking class imbibe more of it? We fear that this will be the case; and if it shall so turn out, a very grave problem, and a new one, will confront those who are endeavoring to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

A WORD ABOUT SHODDY.

President Harrison's happy phrase, that the American people should be students of markets rather than of maxims, is recalled by the figures of the importations of shoddy under the McKinley law, as compared with those under the Wilson-Gorman law. Every one remembers how the shoddy bugaboo figured in the free trade speeches of 1892. The argument was that the duty on wool raised the price, therefore the manufacturers used shoddy instead, and that people were paying the price of all-wool goods for shoddy cloth.

That sounded reasonable, and it was largely believed by the people, especially in the Northwestern states, as The Blade knows from numerous letters written by subscribers in that section during the 1892 campaign.

But the shoddy theory above given was all moonshine. It was difficult to disprove, but for all that it was a falsehood. It came under the head of "maxims;" and now the cold facts of the "markets" of the country afford the proof of its fallacy.

The fact was that there was more all-wool cloth sold than ever before during the four years the McKinley law was in force. Under that law, the duty on foreign shoddy, waste and woolen rags was so high that the imports were largely reduced from what they had formerly been. Under the present tariff law they are admitted free or on payment of very low duties. Under the McKinley law, from October, 1890, to September, 1894, only 1,352,421 pounds of these adulterants came into the United States from foreign countries. Under the Wilson-Gorman law the imports have amounted to 17,666,563 pounds in one year. The following figures in detail have been compiled by the American Economist from official government returns:

Imports of shoddy, woolen waste and rags:	
Total imports under McKinley law, four years.....	1,352,421
Total imported under Gorman-Wilson law, one year.....	17,666,563
Gorman-Wilson law excess in one year over four years of McKinley law	16,314,142

There you have the facts. The imports of shoddy, rags, etc., were more than thirteen times greater under one year of the present tariff than under four years of the McKinley law. Thus free trade has not only dealt a killing blow at the American wool industry, but has immensely increased the use of inferior substances in the manufacture of cloths to be made into clothing. It is in this as in other items—the free trade theory is disproved by the stern logic of the facts. The maxims are disproved by the market figures.

Senator Dubois says the friends of silver will not make any special effort to secure free coinage legislation during the present session of Congress. They will, however, oppose any new issue of bonds or any currency reorganization scheme that is not in the interest of the white metal. It is to be regretted that these gentlemen cannot see that they will thus act merely the part of obstructionists, without aiding in the least in securing any silver legislation. The 16 to 1 issue is dead.

The Richmond home of Jefferson Davis, the "White House of the Confederacy," is to be formally opened as a museum of war relics after Christmas. Miss Mildred Lee and Miss Winnie Davis are to be the regents. As the years pass, the "Lost Cause" becomes more and more a mere memory, and now the residence of its chief is to be turned into a museum of historic relics. It is better so.

Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, is suspected of carrying a pitchfork concealed on his person, for use on the person of the Chief Executive.

Supporting the Monroe doctrine is not jingoism, but Americanism.

A CALL TO THE TRUE REPUBLICANS OF THIS NATION.

Every intelligent voter in the Republican party knows that the government needs more revenue. The receipts are not enough to meet the current expenses.

The Wilson-Gorman tariff law is a dire failure as a revenue raiser. Each month increases the deficiency. Within two years the government has raised over $150,000,000 by the sale of bonds, yet less than $80,000,000 of that gold remains in the reserve. The greenbacks paid into the Treasury in exchange for the gold have been used for the ordinary expenses of the government—to bridge over the deficiency in the revenues.

What is the one duty most urgent and imperative on the Congress now in session?

The answer is on everybody's tongue: "Amend the tariff law so that it will produce enough revenue for the needs of the government!"

The tariff law must be amended on protective lines, in accordance with Republican principles. The people have thrice repeated their mandate that the ruinous Democratic policy shall be abandoned—at the fall elections of 1893, at the Congressional elections of 1894, and at the elections last month. The Republican majority in Congress is under the orders of the people to make the change, so far as it is able.

But will the Republican House move in the matter, as is its plain duty? The constitution says all bills for raising revenue must originate in the House. Will the House act?

The impression is gaining ground that it will not.

In the politically-infected air of Washington, the members are losing right of their plain duty. The Presidential campaign of next year is obscuring their vision.

Speaker Reed's speech to the caucus which nominated him for Speaker, was a surprise to the nation. It was taken to mean that the Republicans do not intend to enter upon the task which the people elected them to perform.

Various utterances have been made since by Republican leaders, in much the same vein. Their substance is, that the present Congress shall "pass the appropriation bills, and go home."

What! And the nation go on piling up its bonded debt? A new issue of bonds is already talked of as sure to come speedily.

What! Let the revenue deficiency grow, month by month, for two years longer?

No, a thousand times no! The Republican voters of the nation will not allow it!

They should at once call on the House to do its duty.

"But," says the political trimmer, "Cleveland will veto any protective bill!"

Well, what of it? That puts the disobedience of the people's mandate on his shoulders. The Republicans of the House must do their duty, no matter what the duck-hunter of the White House may do.

Stir the House of Representatives to action, through the exercise of your constitutional right of petition!

We ask every reader of The Blade to take a postal card, and address it to your Representative in Congress—if he is a Republican—thus, inserting his name:

HON. ————,
House of Representatives,
Washington,
D. C.

Then turn it over, and write the following on the other side, inserting the number of your district and name of your state in the blanks:

————, —, Dec. —, 1895.

Hon. ————:

I am a Republican voter of the —— district, of the state of ——. I ask you to use your influence to pass such amendments to the tariff, on protection lines, as will produce a revenue ample for all needs of the government.

————

Then mail it at once, and get every Republican voter to do the same thing. It will recall the House of Representatives to a sense of their duty as nothing else will.

But suppose your Representative is a Democrat or a Populist. Write exactly the same thing on the card, but address it:

HON. THOMAS B. REED,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington,
D. C.

Mr. Reed needs to be recalled to a lively sense of the duty every Republican member owes to the people. No man is fit for the Presidential nomination of the Republican party next year who is not willing to do his whole duty in Congress this winter.

Do this AT ONCE!

Let a snowstorm of postal cards assail the House of Representatives before the Christmas adjournment!

REED AND THE WOOL GROWERS.

If reports from Washington are correct, Speaker Reed has incurred the enmity of the wool growers by his treatment of Congressman Danford's memorial Monday. The wool growers in session at Washington prepared a memorial asking Congress to restore the duty on wool. This memorial was placed in the hands of Mr. Danford, who asked to have it printed. This requires unanimous consent. Speaker Reed three times informed the House that the gentleman from Ohio desired unanimous consent to have the memorial printed and each time paused awaiting objections. At last Mr. Crisp objected and the memorial was not ordered printed, but was returned to its framers.

This, perhaps, is in line with the course of "masterly inactivity" mapped out by Mr. Reed, but it is not in line with the sentiment of the people or the Republican party. It was a snub to the wool growers, and one they will and should resent. The Republican party believes the duty on wool should be restored and at least the wool growers should receive fair play.

It is just as well that Harry Hayward is to die soon. Each day he demonstrates that he is not fit to live.

The enforcement of the Monroe doctrine is not disturbing President Cleveland: he is shooting ducks.

THE DUTY OF CONGRESS.

The fifteenth month of the new tariff law ended simultaneously with the meeting of the Fifty-fourth Congress, which must face the stern realities of the Treasury situation, and determine what method shall be pursued to obtain enough money to meet the running expenses of the government. It may be of interest, both to its members and others, to see what the new law, enacted by the last Congress, has accomplished; also, to compare its workings with those of its predecessor.

There was a period, a few months ago, when the friends of the new law looked hopefully to the future, in the belief that the receipts would sufficiently increase to justify their faith in its final success. But that hope has failed them. The receipts, which in July reached high water mark at $29,069,697, fell off in August to $28,952,696, in September to $27,549,678, and in November, just ended, to $25,986,503. So it becomes apparent that the expected gain in receipts is not to materialize, and as the very best month in the history of the law fell far short of the average expenditures, to rely further upon it would be worse than folly. There have been but two months in the entire history of the law in which it did not produce a regular monthly deficit, and they were months of abnormally light expenditures.

The Wilson-Gorman law found the shelves of the country empty of dutiable foreign goods, and there was reason to expect enormous importations and enormous collections of customs. The enormous importations came, but not the enormous collections. While the dutiable imports increased in value from $257,645,702 in the last year of the McKinley law to $381,450,426 under the present law, the customs receipts remained light. The new law permitted the distillers to retain their spirits in bond eight years instead of three, and as a result the withdrawals of distilled spirits during the first year of the new law were but 48,255,277 gallons, against 119,364,232 gallons in the last year of the McKinley law. The result was an enormous falling off in the internal revenue as well as in the customs receipts. The consequence is that the receipts during the first fifteen months of the new law have fallen, in round numbers, $72,000,000 below the expenditures, and the Treasury has laid aside not a penny for the sinking fund.

The workings of the new law during its first fifteen months may be summarized as follows:

Receipts—	
From customs	$201,724,748
From internal revenue	171,478,038
From miscellaneous	20,608,596
Total receipts	$373,796,648
Total expenditures	444,290,692
Deficit	$ 70,494,044

Of course nobody of intelligence will believe the assertion that the new law is producing more income than the McKinley law did, yet that having been made, it may be well enough, at this time, to show the entire inaccuracy of that statement. It was obtained by taking the few exceptional months in the closing period of the McKinley law, when importers had stopped importing, and business was awaiting the readjustment of the tariff law, and comparing the best months of the new law with them. That this was entirely unfair and misleading is evident, but to place the two laws, fairly, side by side, it is only necessary to compare the fifteen months' earnings of the new law alongside any fifteen months of the McKinley law. The following table, from official figures, shows the receipts during the first fifteen months of the new law, compared with the first, second and last fifteen month period of the McKinley law. It gives an accurate test of the comparative earning capacities of the two laws:

Receipts—	
First 15 months McKinley law	$451,299,201
Second 15 months McKinley law	469,001,079
Last 15 months McKinley law	339,661,500
First 15 months present law...	373,796,648

Taking up the classes of goods from which this meagre revenue was collected, it is found that the customs burden has been transferred from luxuries, imported farm productions and products of the factories, to articles of food and other classes which the people are compelled to buy for daily sustenance. The articles of food imported free of duty fell off, in the first year of the new law compared with the last fiscal year of the McKinley law, over $100,000,000, the articles of food on which a duty was collected increased 200 per cent. while the free importation of luxuries increased over 200 per cent. Although this law professed to add largely to the free list, the free importations in the first year were but 48.4 of the total production, while in the last year of the McKinley law the free importations were 59.5 of the total imported. Framed ostensibly in the interests of the farmers and working people, the importations of farm products under it in its first year were more than double those of the last year of the McKinley law, and the importations of manufactures which came in competition with our manufactories increased $70,000,000 over the last year of the McKinley law.

It is therefore clear that the present law is an absolute failure as a revenue producer. The present Congress will fail in its duty to the people of the United States if it does not amend its schedules so as to increase the revenues, and stop the increase of the bonded debt in a time of profound peace. And we have faith that it will take hold of the problem in a broad and patriotic spirit; that it will pass proper measures for this purpose, leaving to Grover Cleveland the decision whether he will sign the bills in obedience to the mandate of the people in 1894, or veto them and bear the condemnation which will fall upon him.

There is a fever of speculation in Cripple Creek gold mining stocks now raging in Colorado. The methods used are similar to those used by Barnato and his friends in the European Kaffir boom. These are profitable properties among the Cripple Creek mines, and many others which are wildcats. It is the part of wisdom for those desiring to invest, to discriminate carefully.

The influence of small cotton exports in producing gold shipments is easily seen by comparing the export figures of this year with those of a twelvemonth ago. The falling off up to Saturday amounts to 1,572,000 bales, as compared with the same period last year. For the six days of December there has been a decline of 147,000 bales as compared with last year. The total net receipts at all ports since September 1 amount to 2,658,189 bales. The total experts are 1,603,588 bales, as compared with 2,433,541 bales last year.

Mr. Cleveland has a much better defined policy on duck hunting than on foreign affairs.

SALISBURY'S REPLY.

Great Britain's reply to the note of the United States on the Venezuelan question is at last made public after some six months' waiting. The essential point in it is a curt refusal to submit to arbitration any of the territory within the Schomburgk line.

President Cleveland, in his message to Congress, takes the ground that Great Britain is not warranted in drawing an arbitrary line through the territory in debate with Venezuela and declaring that it will submit to arbitration only the portion lying on one side of it. "This government will insist that the entire controversy be submitted to impartial arbitration," he adds.

The question of interest now is, how far will Mr. Cleveland go in his insistence? Will he stand by the interpretation of the Monroe doctrine which is laid down in the official communication to the British government of last July, even if it should embroil us with Great Britain?

The question has now reached a stage at which either Great Britain or the United States must back squarely down, unless they proceed to settle the dispute by a resort to the methods of force. The ground taken by the President is that the traditional and established policy of this government "is firmly opposed to forcible increase by any European power of its territorial possessions on this continent." That is the Presidential interpretation of the Monroe doctrine, and every true American will agree with him.

Applying this interpretation to the Venezuelan affair, the message says that "the United States is bound to protest against the enlargement of the area of British Guiana, in derogation of the rights and against the will of Venezuela." And then he adds the statement quoted above, that Great Britain can not be permitted to draw an arbitrary line through the disputed territory and declare it will arbitrate only its claim to the territory beyond that line.

The "Schomburgk line" is the "arbitrary line" referred to by the President. Great Britain has done what the President says will not satisfy "a friendly and impartial arbitration."

Well, what are you going to do about it, Mr. Cleveland? Will you stand by your position, or abandon it?

IS IT ALL A BLUFF?

The reply of Lord Salisbury to Secretary Olney's note in regard to the Venezuelan dispute was received in Washington by the British ambassador, Sir Julian Pauncefote, and at once communicated to Secretary Olney. It will not be made public until the President returns from his duck-hunting trip, when it will probably be made the subject of a special message to Congress. The impression deepens that the whole correspondence is a farce, and that both parties have agreed on what shall be the outcome of the negotiations.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Post sends his paper this story, and emphatically affirms its truth. He says the secret agreement between the two countries is as follows:

1. A demand on the part of this government for a settlement of the boundary question by arbitration.

2. Reply by the British government declining to accede to the settlement of the question as a whole, but leaving the matter open as to the territory west of the Schomburgk line.

3. Agitation resulting in the appointment of a joint commission or board of arbitration to pass on the question, in part or whole.

4. An award giving Great Britain all the territory she ever really laid genuine claim to, namely, that lying east of the Schomburgk line.

Of course the reply of Salisbury is expected to start a chorus of protest, and the United States will answer in a sharp strain; the game of "bluff" between the two governments is to be kept up until the popular steam on both sides of the Atlantic is worked off, and the net result of the whole proceeding will be that Great Britain will get what she really wants in the way of territory, the United States will get the glory, and Venezuela will get left.

The whole thing is to be a diplomatic hippodrome, if the Washington rumor is true. The story has in it the element of probability, and the people will watch with interest to determine its truth.

REMEMBER THESE FIGURES!

Receipts, first 15 months, Democratic tariff law.....	$373,796,648
Expenditures, first 15 months, Democratic tariff law.....	444,290,692
Deficiency, 15 months.....	$ 70,494,044

And yet the Republican majority in Congress is paltering with the revenue question, and discussing the propriety of not attempting any tariff (and revenue) legislation in the present body!

AHLWARDT, THE JEW-BAITER.

Herr Ahlwardt, the notorious anti-Semite of the German Reichstag, has just arrived in this country on a mission of hatred and discord. He is endeavoring to stir up an organized opposition to the Jewish race, similar to that which exists in Russia, Austria and Germany, among the ignorant peasantry.

Ahlwardt certainly must be ignorant of the fact that toleration of all races and of all religious faiths is one of the fundamental principles of the free government of the United States. And he will certainly fail in his propaganda of bigotry and persecution. The American people are too intelligent and too tolerant to imbibe doctrines which are a heritage from the darkness and ignorance of the Middle Ages.

Were Ahlwardt to be treated as he deserves, he would be promptly sent back to Europe under the improper immigrant law, as was done with an English anarchist a couple of years ago. He is a bigot and a demagogue, who obtained his election to the Reichstag through the ignorant prejudices of an unenlightened constituency. He is preaching a doctrine contrary to American institutions and American beliefs.

However, it may be as well to ignore this rabid Jew-hater. His fanatical demands for social proscription of any of the multitudinous classes of our citizenship will meet with no response on our free soil, unless from the very ignorant among recent immigrants from the countries wherein the Judenhetze has found support.

St. Louis comes to the front with a case of meanness hard to equal. An insurance collector died, and his widow took his place. The board of fire underwriters demanded her discharge, and because her employers refused, expelled the firm from the board. If St. Louis business men have any sense of justice, that firm will get plenty of business.

Senator Sherman has once for all put a quietus on the report that he is a receptive candidate for the Presidency. He is for McKinley and says so in as many words.

Attorney General Harmon should nail that carpet tack trust.

CONGRESS MUST DO ITS DUTY.

Hon. Thomas B. Reed committed a tactical error when he intimated, in his speech before the Republican House caucus which nominated him for Speaker, that Congress would not meddle with the tariff at this time.

Great as is the admiration of Republicans all over the country for his many splendid qualities—his sturdy Republicanism, his magnificent leadership, his great ability as a fearless leader—yet they will not assent to an abandonment of the tariff issue during the present Congress.

It is amazing that any Republican in the present Congress can entertain the proposition for a moment. The revenues of the government are not sufficient for its expenses. Within less than two years we have borrowed over $150,000,000 on bonds, but less than $80,000,000 of the gold thus obtained remains in the Treasury. The greenbacks paid in when gold was taken out have been used for current expenses, thus covering the deficit in the revenues. That another bond issue is imminent, is acknowledged at Washington. And so it will go on indefinitely, until remedied.

The first thing to do is to so amend the Wilson-Gorman law as to produce abundant revenue. This will put a stop to the steadily growing deficiency, and in all probability stop the drain on the gold reserve.

Why attempt to evade the very duty this Congress was elected to perform? Look at the facts:

The Democratic party was put in power at the Presidential and Congressional elections of 1892.

By the fall of 1893—within a single year—the voters of the country realized the mistake they made. The heavy Republican majorities everywhere that fall voiced their protest against the Democratic tariff-smashing and prosperity-wrecking programme.

The Congressional elections of 1894 conveyed a distinct and emphatic mandate that the Democratic policy is to be reversed, and the nation return to protection and consequent prosperity.

And this mandate was reiterated and doubly emphasized by the elections this year. Never did a party receive so tremendous a rebuke as has the Democracy at the last three years' elections.

And never was there a clearer or more direct instruction to a party to at once proceed with the work committed to its representatives in Congress than that conveyed to the Republican party to proceed at once with legislation along protective lines, in accord with the settled Republican policy.

And now Republican leaders at Washington are halting timidly, and proposing to postpone this duty for two years—until the next Congress!

No wonder a wave of disguest, followed by a storm of protest, is sweeping over the country!

The only plea for this projected delay is that "the President will veto any protective tariff bill that Congress may pass."

This is not a sufficient excuse. It is the imperative duty of the Republican majority to obey the will of the people who elected it, and pass a proper measure, on Republican protective lines, and let Mr. Cleveland disobey the people or not, as he may choose.

It is idiotic for any Republican in Congress to propose to neglect the party's plain duty. Every intelligent Republican voter should at once write to his Representative, asking him to use his utmost endeavors to see that a measure embodying protection and ample revenue is passed at this session.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Those people who have the idea that governmental control of the railroads is a remedy for a number of things with which they find fault in the present order, will be interested in some facts from a report just made to the government of Victoria, Australia, on the railways of that province. As is well known, the railways of Australia are owned and worked by the colonies themselves, their cost forming a large part of the colonial debts. In Victoria the investment in these roads reaches nearly $190,000,000, the interest being about $7,000,000 per annum.

The people are dissatisfied with government control, and a long investigation was caused by the fact that, although the Australian producers are charged rates which are five times more than American shippers pay, the railways fail to earn interest by nearly $2,000,000 per year, the accumulated deficits for the last six years amounting to more than $10,000,000. In Victoria the wages of the employes are higher, while the salaries of the responsible officers are lower than those paid in England or America. As the administration of the colony is really in the hands of the labor unions, no return to normal wages seems possible. Another serious trouble is the large number of superfluous employes.

The average number of engines in 1894 was 302, but there were employed 579 drivers, 440 firemen, and 262 cleaners, in all 1,281 persons, or an average of four to each locomotive. The rolling stock was shown to be depreciated $6,500,000, while of the materials carried on the books at $3,500,000, but $1,000,000 in value was found. It was also ascertained that, while the coal used in 1891 was 40 pounds to the train mile, it had increased to 52 pounds in 1894. The explanation is that to keep some expensive mines open in the colony the railroads were, in addition to poor economy in working, losing annually on coal $150,000 because of poor steaming quality.

This report says that a somewhat too severe economy has been practiced as to the maintenance of the plant, "which, unless modified, will inevitably result in the general deterioration of the whole system." The board sees a way to save in expenses the amount of the annual deficit, but as this would involve putting the lines on a commercial basis, nothing will be done. Meanwhile, the colony is supporting 31 branch lines, costing $17,500,000, which do not earn working expenses, and 14 more which do not earn interest, lines which in a few cases may pay in time, but in most cases will never earn anything on their cost.

That there are evils in American railway management will be admitted by every one; but it does not follow that governmental ownership is a remedy for them. The trouble is, that the evils inherent in the latter are greater than these which we now suffer. It is better to endeavor to remedy the latter rather than rush into other and greater ones.

The expenditures of the government are running behind the receipts at the rate of forty millions a year, but so far as Mr. Cleveland's message is concerned the country knows nothing about it.

NOTES OF ROYAL PEOPLE.

The queen of Italy never puts on the same gloves and stockings twice.

The Chinese emperor rises at 4 o'clock every morning and studies English and Manchu until 5, when he breakfasts.

Those who ought to know say that the crown princess of Roumania is the handsomest sprig of royalty in Europe.

The emperor of Germany has ordered his children to acquire proficiency in swimming during their stay on the island of Rugen.

The king of Portugal is visiting several European courts to borrow money on his bearing the legend, "In hock—signo vinces."

Prince Max of Saxony has been ordained a priest by the bishop of Elchstadt, Bavaria, his father, Prince George of Saxony, being present.

Queen Liliuokalani is between 55 and 60 years old. She has very dark skin and very thick lips, and her husband was a white man and an American.

The queen of Madagascar is a handsome woman. She has a graceful, well-formed head, good features, an attractive figure and an agreeable smile.

The princess of Wales and the dowager empress of Russia are both in Denmark, and will remain there some time. They have been very chummy.

The queen of Spain is the most devoted of mothers, and will not submit to the court etiquette which transfers almost all the duties of motherhood to nurses.

Most of the wedding presents of the duchess of Fife, daughter of the prince of Wales, were lost in the fire which destroyed her Highland country seat, Mar lodge.

The emperor of Germany smokes cigars about seven inches long, each of which is kept in a hermetically sealed glass tube to preserve the aroma until it is used.

Princess Feodora of Saxe-Meiningen, the oldest of Queen Victoria's great-grandchildren, is 16, and has just been confirmed. The queen may be a great-great-grandmother yet.

Queen Sophia of Sweden and her niece, the queen regent of Holland, are great admirers of the Salvation Army. Another sort of "War Cry" has obtained popularity in Norway.

The princess of Wales has lately discarded the big sleeves, but she does not rule the fashions of women as her husband does those of men, and the women will continue to wear big sleeves.

King Humbert owns nearly 200 horses and the greater number of them are English bred. The double row of stalls forms a regular street, and each animal's name is printed in large white letters above the manger.

Queen Victoria's household is a large one, consisting of just under a thousand persons, for the maintenance of whom the nation sets apart the sum of $2,500,000 every year. Most of the offices are sinecures or fixtures for life.

The empress of Japan is a little woman, who almost disappears in the long-trained dresses of western civilization, in which she now appears at court ceremonies. Even in high-heeled boots she pears almost a dwarf in the eyes of Europeans.

In the face of the absolutely stupendous number of pictures which represent Queen Victoria on any and every domestic occasion with her crown on, it is rather curious to learn that she has not, as a matter of fact, worn it more than 20 times during her whole reign.

King Humbert of Italy has a private fortune of $30,000,000. The whole of this snug sum is deposited with the Rothschilds at London. The king is a very sensible man, sensible also to the tottering throne, and he evidently means to save, if not his kingdom, at least his cash.

PERSONS AND THINGS.

Four Bangor (Me.) women succeeded in swimming across Menai Straits, a distance of a mile and a half.

C. J. Jones, a negro lawyer of Greenville, Miss., has been admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Princess of Wales, who is very far from being wealthy, has received a pleasant windfall of $50,000 from the late Emperor of Russia. He was very fond of his sister-in-law, and this legacy was formally set down in his will.

A London pauper picked up an apple on the workhouse grounds last summer and ate it. He was committed for larceny, and, after an imprisonment for two months, was released by the grand jury's refusing to find an indictment against him.

Queen Christina's decision to confer the order of the Golden Fleece on President Faure entitles him to wear one of the choicest decorations in Europe. The only living French members of the order are the Dukes of Talleyrand, Nemours, and Aumale, and the Prince de Joinville.

The Japanese silk nightgown made by the "unskilled gentlewomen" of New York and presented to Mrs. Stanton on her eightieth birthday isn't going to be hid from public view after all, it seems. At least Mrs. Stanton says: "It is too pretty for a nightgown and I shall use it for a teagown. It's fine enough to cross Jordan in."

Hall Caine said in Philadelphia that it was not so many years ago since his tea-table service consisted of one china cup and one silver spoon. He was able afterward to add other cups, but his single spoon had to suffice for several guests. The novelist spoke some commendable words of praise for the American girl, who he thinks has attained a higher intellectual standard than her English sisters.

A country doctor named Sauria, who died recently, aged 84, in the department of the Jura, France, invented sixty years ago matches made with chlorate of potassium, phosphorus, and sulphur, but was too poor to pay for a patent and his invention was made use of in Germany. He applied ten years ago for some reward from the French government, but only got the right to keep a tobacco stand.

Isabella Bird Bishop is regarded as one of the most valuable members of the Royal Geographical Society. Being skilled both as a photographer and a descriptive writer, she has sent home to England from the Orient much novel and interesting material from remote regions of China, Thibet, and Persia. She was one of the first women to see the Koreans face to face, and several times she narrowly escaped death among savage Asian tribes; but, as she is a physician, with some knowledge of occult and an understanding of how to deal with the superstitious, she has avoided serious danger.

FIVE FAMOUS WOMEN.

George Eliot had an exceedingly unprepossessing face—a heavy nose and chin and thick lips—yet there was an irresistible charm in her conversational powers.

Mme. de Stael knew that she was not good looking, her complexion being muddy and features irregular, but her manners were so sweet and her conversation so brilliant and witty that she had the largest salon in Paris.

Martha Washington had a remarkably strong face, noble in character and shining with goodness. Her manners were simple, yet dignified, commanding respect wherever she appeared.

Mme. Pompadour was fairly good looking, her chief beauty being her hair, which she wore in the style named after her, to increase her height. She had wonderful tact, but no great amount of intelligence.

Lucrezia Borgia was a magnificent looking woman, with gray eyes and abundant tawny hair. She was remarkably brilliant in repartee, and had a peculiar way of looking at a person sideways, and, as her eyelids drooped over the iris, it gave one a most uncanny feeling.

CURRENT EVENTS.

St. Louis—Four persons were frozen to death as a result of the unexpected cold wave that struck this city yesterday.

New York—Harold C. McCormack and his bride, formerly Miss Edith Rockefeller, sail on the Paris for Southampton to-day.

Peoria, Ill.—Antone Hodenply, of the New York diamond firm of Hodenply & Son, fell from a truck wagon and died. He had $70,000 worth of diamonds in his possession.

Hazleton, Pa.—Two children of Charles Singley, of Oneida, Anna and May, aged 2 and 4 years, drank two ounces of liquid containing opium. Anna died and little hope for May.

Buffalo—The body of an unknown girl who committed suicide at a fashionable boarding house, and who is supposed to be from Canada, lies at the morgue, unrecognized and unclaimed.

London—At a meeting of the London bondholders of the Nicaragua railway the meeting accepted the scheme of settlement of the debt arranged between the committee of bondholders and the Nicaragua government.

Dublin—Mr. W. E. H Lecky, L.L. D., D. C. L., the historian, has been elected to the parliamentary seat for Dublin university to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of the Rt. Hon. David R. Plunkett (Conservative) to the Peerage.

Truckee, Cal.—Truckee is preparing to have an ice palace to illustrate the diversity of climate. Building.

Belleville, Ills.—Six men were injured by the explosion of a boiler in the engine house of the new Athens Coal company.

Phoenix, Ariz.—The report that Judge A. C. Baker had ruled that Pima Indians are by treaty citizens of the United States has proved erroneous.

Vinton, Ia.—John Cummings, a painter, has confessed to grave robbery, the body being that of a young lady relative of J. F. Christie, the foremost citizen of Marion.

Kansas City—Securities of the Jarvis-Conklin Mortgage Trust company of the face value of $1,375,000 were sold here at public sale by J. P. Downing, receiver of the company.

Tacoma, Wash.—Shipping men here will ask the government to send a cruiser to search for the missing Pacific Mexican steamers Saint Augustine, Orizaba, Evandale and bark Lord Brassey.

Huntington, W. Va.—Near Williamson, Toy Hatfield, the 14-year-old son of "Devil" Anse Hatfield, of Hatfield-McCoy fame, fired a rifle ball from his gun into Dan Craig, killing him instantly.

Philadelphia—The U. S. mint in this city is very busy now endeavoring to supply the big demand for silver dollars, and nine presses are run to their full capacity every day—an average daily production of about 400,000 cents.

Topeka, Kas.—State Labor Commissioner W. G. Bird charged with extortion in office, was acquitted by a jury after a trial of two days.

Columbia, S. C.—Prince Graham, Jacob R. Lake and William Fraser were hanged at Hampton for the murder of E. R. Mears, committed for the purpose of robbery.

Pittsburg—The joint convention of coal operators and mi

Publishers' Column.

WANT A WATCH?

Then Here is Your Golden Opportunity.

Do you want a watch? If you do, you want a good one. In these days of excellent watches you cannot afford to carry a poor one. The Elgin and Waltham watches represent the perfection of mechanical skill and artistic beauty. They are recognized the world over as the finest timepieces that have yet been devised. These are the watches that we offer to you, and at prices far below those charged in shops.

When a purchaser receives a watch he may submit it to an expert, and if at the end of three days he is satisfied that the watch is not up to the guarantee he should at once return it to this office, when his money will be refunded in full. No watches can be sent C. O. D., and no samples can be sent. Every watch is guaranteed to be the latest product of the Waltham or Elgin factories, whichever the purchaser may select.

In ordering BE SURE to state the number of the offer, say whether you want Elgin or Waltham, and give the price, that we may understand clearly what you want.

Here are the watches we offer. All are stem winders and setters.

Offer No. 1—Gold Watch, Men's Size, $15.75.

The watch and casemakers of the United States have been trying to produce at a low price a watch that would be exactly like a $100 solid gold watch in appearance, time-keeping qualities, durability, etc., and have succeeded beyond the highest expectations. This watch is the celebrated thin model watch. We mean by this model, that it does not bulge the pocket out of shape, or give people the impression that you are carrying a clock movement. The case is made of two plates of solid gold, 14 kt. fine, so thick that they will last twenty years. Between these plates is a thin sheet of stiff composition metal, the purpose of which is to protect the works from damage when the watch is pressed or struck. This closure saves many a bill for repairs—a great point for people at a distance from reliable watch makers. The ring joints, thumb piece, and all parts subjected to constant wear are solid gold, which of course will wear for generations. The works contain compensation expansion balance safety pinion, stem winding and pendant setting apparatus, and many other improvements. The movement is made by the celebrated Waltham Watch Co., and is perfect in construction and durability. This watch comes in hunting case only.

Offer No. 2—Men's Size Gold Watch, $13.35.

No. 2 is a men's size Waltham or Elgin gold-filled hunting-case watch, stem wind and set; the works contain seven jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus, and all the latest improvements. It is an accurate timekeeper, which looks just like a $100 gold solid watch. The case is guaranteed to wear 15 years. Watch clubs have been selling this watch for $18. Our price by registered mail, delivery prepaid and guaranteed, is only $14.35.

Offer No. 3—Men's Open Face Gold Watch, $11.50.

Men's size, open face, either engraved or engine turned, gold watch, $11.50. No. 3 is a magnificent gold filled watch, with Waltham or Elgin works in the works are seven jewels and all improvements, including expansion balance, plain regulator, etc. The manufacturers guarantee this watch to wear 15 years, just like solid gold. This watch is open face only, stem winder, pendant set. Price by registered mail, $11.50.

Offer No. 4—Men's Open Face Solid Nickel Silver, $5.50.

Waltham or Elgin Watch, containing seven jewels, compensation balance, and safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus, and all the latest improvements. The case is made of a composition of nickel silver and nickel, open face, and the crystal is made of plate glass, so heavy as to withstand any strain. We send it to subscribers, delivery guaranteed, for $5.50. Screw case, dust proof.

Offer No. 5—Blade Special.

Open face or hunting case; Waltham or Elgin works. It has the appearance and most of the good qualities of a $300 watch. The movement (or works) contain 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made, that is, the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness, and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as solid gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb-piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, editors, committeemen, and all others who wish an accurate timekeeper. As a present it can not be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equaled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail, to any of our subscribers, for $13.50.

Offer No. 26—Men's Size—Open Face Silver, $6.50.

This is a seven jewel Waltham or Elgin, open face only, stiffened silver case. In other words, in order to give strength sufficient to make the case durable without making the metal thick and heavy the silver is strengthened by a nickel plate, introduced in such a manner as to be entirely hidden, and were it not explained, the purchaser would not be able to tell it from a heavy, solid coin silver case. This watch does not come in Hunting case—open face only—with a heavy beveled plate glass crystal, strong and durable. The dial is of white porcelain, either Roman or Arabic characters. In order to prevent the possibility of the hands catching, the dial upon which the second hand is mounted is sunk below the level of the surrounding face. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $6.50.

Offer No. 27—Men's Size—Coin Silver, $10.00.

This is a solid, coin silver Waltham or Elgin watch, open face or Hunting. This is the newest silver case in the market, being the same model as our "Blade Special Watch No 5." Heretofore this model case was only made in solid gold and high priced, gold filled watch cases, and it has taken so well that the manufacturer has placed this coin silver watch on the market. The works contain seven jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all latest improvements. We will deliver this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

"Appleton, Tracy & Co.," Waltham Men's Size.

"APPLETON, TRACY & CO." is one of the celebrated watches of the world. The works are full jeweled with 15 extra fine red ruby jewels in solid gold settings, compensation balance, safety pinion, stem winding and setting, Breguet hair spring, special adjustment to temperature, ochronism and position, and all the very latest improvements. This watch took the first prize at the World's Exposition in Paris, against all competitors, both American and foreign. We will deliver this watch to any address in the United States, works as above, in—

No. 106—Solid 14 kt. gold, 40 dwt., hunting case only.....$60 00
No. 108—2 oz. solid coin silver, hunting or open face.....17 50
No. 111—Solid nickel silver case, open face... 12 75

The Waltham and Elgin Watch Companies Reduce Their 15 Jewel Watches.

The American Watch Co., at Waltham, and the Elgin National Watch Co., at Elgin, Ill., have made a reduction in the price of their 15 jewel movements. We take the first opportunity to give our readers the advantage of the new price list. The works are 15 jewel in settings, compensation balance, patent fine nut hair spring, hardened and tempered in form, white porcelain dial, stem wind and pendant set. The cases are handsomely engraved or engine turned, and guaranteed by the manufacturers to wear like solid gold for 15 years. We mail registered to any address, delivery guaranteed, for the following prices:

No. 3—Gold filled, 15 years, hunting case, engraved or engine turned, mailed for.....$17 50
No. 31—Gold filled, 1 years, open face case engraved or engine turned, mailed for.....15 0
No. 32—Ore silver 15s, open face, screw case, dust proof, mailed for.....9 00

LADIES' WATCHES.

Offer No. 15—Solid Gold $22.50.

The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14 kt. United States assay, handsomely engraved. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $22.00.

Offer No. 16—Gold Filled, $13.50 Waltham or Elgin.

Is a lady's gold filled engraved watch, guaranteed by the manufacturer to wear 15 years. The works contain seven jewels, exposed pallet safety pinion, and all improvements. Price, delivery guaranteed, $13.50.

Offer No. 17—Solid Gold, Waltham or Elgin, $16.00.

Is a lady's solid gold hunting or open face case very delicately engraved, contains a Waltham or Elgin movement, seven jewels. A perfect time keeper. Post-paid, $16.00.

In ordering BE SURE to state the number of the offer, say whether you want Elgin or Waltham, and give the price that we may understand clearly what you want.

If you are not a subscriber to The Blade, add one dollar to prices above stated when you order, and we will enter you on our subscription list for one year. Address,

"THE BLADE, Toledo, O."

WATERPROOF OVERCOATS.

The goods we offered to the subscribers of The Blade last year met with such favor that we have concluded this year to extend our list of waterproof coats for men and ladies. The prices this year will be somewhat lower than last, and we have added to the list. We offer both single tex ure and double texture, sewed and seamed. These goods are not pasted together, but SUBSTANTIALLY SEWED.

We prepay express charges, and deliver these goods at your nearest express office. When you order, please give your postoffice and your express office address.

Men's Waterproofs, Double Texture, With Detachable Capes.

No. 500 black diagonal, double stitch seams.....$5 50
No. 501 tan diagonal, double stitch seams.....5 50
No. 502, blue diagonal, double stitch seams.....5 50
No. 550, Black Henrietta, double stitch seams.....6 00
No. 551, Blue Henrietta, double stitch seams.....6 00
No. 552 Tan Covert, double stitch seams.....6 00
No. 600, Black All Wool, double stitch seams.....7 50
No. 601, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams.....7 50

Men's Double-Breasted Box, Velvet Collar, No Cape.

No. 700, Black, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped.....$8 00
No. 701, Blue, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped.....8 00

Regular sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, breast measure. A 40-inch coat is supposed to fit a man whose breast measure over his under coat is 40 inches. State size you want.

Women's Mackintoshes—Inverness Garments. (Sleeveless.)

No. 800 single texture, fast black, with 27-inch cape, unlined.....$4 00
No. 801, single texture fast tan, with 27-inch cape, unlined.....4 00
No. 802, single texture fast blue, with 27-inch cape, unlined.....4 00
No. 803, double texture fast black Henrietta, 27-inch cape.....6 00
No. 804, double texture fast blue Henrietta, 27-inch cape.....6 00
No. 805, double texture, black Henrietta, double cape detachable.....7 00
No. 806, double texture, blue Henrietta, double cape detachable.....7 00

Give your bust measure and length down the back from collar seam to bottom of skirt. We shall require some little time for filling these orders, as they have to be forwarded East to the factory, after we get the orders, and in most cases the garments are made to order. Subscribers, therefore, should not look for these goods sooner than three weeks after they mail us the order.

Address
THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) tea spoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of a composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons.....$1 25
½ dozen teaspoons.....65
1 dozen tablespoons or forks.....2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks.....1 35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks.....2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks.....1 10
1 dozen table knives.....2 25
½ dozen table knives.....1 25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are not sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6597—STOUT LADY'S BASQUE.

The idea that a plain, smooth-fitting basque is the proper mode for a lady of generous proportions is not a correct one, as the severity of outline brings into undesirable prominence the glaring defects of a too stout figure. The graceful lines produced by the smooth vest or plaits on each front, the soft fullness of the vest that is gathered at the top and shirred closely in successive lines above the lower edge, with the convenient outer-arm gore provided in the pattern, render the style here presented an ideal basque for stout ladies. Fancy silk in dark Persian shades is the material shown, and the standing collar being of plain silk in the lightest corresponding color. A single row of passementerie outlines the second fold on each front, and the basque closes invisibly in center. If a plainer effect is desired, the vest and crush collar can be omitted, and the fronts closed with small buttons and buttonholes, as shown in the small drawing, and by omitting the plaited fronts, and covering the linings smoothly with

NO. 6597—STOUT LADY'S BASQUE.

material, a plain glove-fitting basque is the result. Full gigot sleeves can be gathered or plaited at the top, the waists being completed with a single row of passementerie. This will be found an excellent model, and while especially adapted to the requirements of the stout, is becoming to all figures. Crepon, serge, cloth, camel's hair, Henrietta, cheviot, satin or silk in plain or fancy weave will develop stylishly with vest and collar of soft or sheer fabrics, velvet or fancy silk.

The quantity of 44-inch material required to make this basque for a lady having a 32-inch bust is 3 5-8 yards; for a 38-inch size, 3 7-8 yards; for a 44-inch size, 4 1-8 yards, and a 46-inch size, 4 1-4 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6597, and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in eight sizes: For a 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch 40-inch, 42-inch, 44-inch and 46-inch bust measure.

NO. 6624—MISS'S DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKET.

Blue melton made this stylish jacket that is simply finished with tailor-stitched edges. Two large pearl buttons effect the closing on the left side, and invisible closing underneath holding the garment in position over the bust. The jacket is of fashionable length, and is shaped to form ripples below the waist line at the sides and in the back, the seamless center being plaited in rounded box-plaits. The loose-fitting fronts lap deeply in double-breasted style, closing to the shoulder, pocket

NO. 6624—MISSES' DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKET.

laps covering openings to pockets inserted at convenient depth on each side. The full sleeves are shaped in three seams to form mandolin style, the seams being opened, pressed and stitched on each side. Plain and fancy coatings, smooth and rough-faced cloths, cheviot, diagonal, melton, astrakhan, heavy serge, plush and velvet will all develop stylishly by the mode.

The quantity of 54-inch wide material required to make this jacket for a miss of ten years of age is 2 yards; for a fourteen year size, 2¼ yards, for a sixteen-year size 2½ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6624, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in four sizes, for a ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen-year-old miss.

NO. 6407—LADY'S FELIX SKIRT.

This skirt, illustrating one of the most popular modes, is made up in rich black silk crepon. The front is cut in circular

NO. 6407—LADY'S FELIX SKIRT.

form, fitted smoothly at the top without darts, and falls into soft flues or ripples all around the lower edge, which are held in position by a band of elastic tacked underneath. Three separate godet or organ-pipe folds, narrow at the top and spreading widely at the lower edge from the stylish back. Each godet is interlined throughout with haircloth, canvas, or other stiff fabric to give the proper set, the front being faced to knee depth with the same. This interlining is basted to the material and sewed with the seams, the front facing being tacked to the lining of cambric, percaline, or taffeta, which covers the haircloth, and not to the material. The three godets in back are held closely together by an elastic strap near the top, and the placket is made at the left side in the seam nearest to he center back. Crepon, in its vast variety of fanciful weaves, is by all odds the most fashionable skirt material, and its stately folds are displayed to the greatest advantage when modeled by this pattern. Satin, moire, Sicilian, taffeta and woolen dress fabrics make up stylishly by the mode.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this skirt for a lady having a 22-inch waist measure is 5 yards; for a 26-inch size, 5 1-4 yards; for a 30-inch size, 5 1-2 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6407 and retails for 30 cents, is cut in five sizes: for a 22-inch, 24-inch, 28-inch and 30-inch waist measure.

NO. 6603—MISS'S HOUSE GOWN.

Pink and white striped flannelette is used for this pretty and comfortable wrapper, the rolling collar and cuffs being faced with fine pink flannel, and the broad sailor collar edged with a band of the same. Long ends of pink ribbon are inserted in the under-arm seams, and tie in a bow at the front, confining the fullness at the waist line, a knot of the same ribbon being worn at the neck. The back is close fitting in princess style, graceful, rounding rip-

NO. 6603—MISSES' HOUSE GOWN.

ples falling to the foot, from its pretty shaping. The loose fronts are arranged over short fitted linings, that are included in the shoulder seams and under-arm darts. The closing is effected invisibly in center front, but buttons and button-holes can be used if preferred. A turn-over collar finishes the neck, below which the broad sailor collar extends to form lapels each side of the fullness in front. The sleeves are gathered top and bottom over comfortable coat-shaped linings, the lower portions of which are faced and reversed to form rolling cuffs, as plainly delineated. All linings can be omitted if so preferred, and the sailor collar also if a plainer effect is desired. Dainty wrappers in this style can be developed from any soft wool, silk or mixed fabrics, lace, insertion, braid or ribbon providing suitable decoration. More practical wrappers are made of cashmere, flannel, camel's hair or merino and plainly completed.

The quantity of 27-inch wide material required to make this wrapper for a miss of ten years is 8 3-4 yards; for a fourteen-year-old size, 9 yards; for a sixteen-year-old size, 9 1-4 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6603, and retails for 20 cents, is cut in four sizes, for a ten, twelve, fourteen and sixteen-year-old miss.

NO. 6599—LADIES' AND MISSES' COLLARS.

These stylish accessories are highly esteemed by fashionable women, as they can be worn with several styles of waist, or basques, thus effecting a pleasing change of tollette at small expense. No. 1 is made of light or cream colored satin, edged in pointed outline, and has two bretelles that narrow at the waist line front and back. No. 2 is of black or colored velvet with jet or spangled edges. It forms a deeply hollowed sailor collar in black, flaring in points at the front; three graduated tabs in center reaching to the waist, in blouse style. A bow of satin ribbon to match the velvet is placed at the back of the standing collar, and a corresponding bow at the waist line. The closing is invisible at the left shoulder. No. 3 is of Persian silk, edged with double ruching of narrow butter-colored Valenciennes lace. It closes in center back. Velvet, satin, plain, brocaded or fancy silks are generally chosen for these collars, decoration of lace, sequins, fur, jet or jeweled passementerie, enhancing their style and

NO. 6599—LADIES AND MISSES' COLLARS.

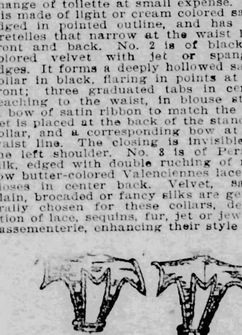
value. A stiff interlining is necessary to give the proper set and support the decoration.

The quantity of 22-inch wide material required to make design No. 1 for a ladies' size is 1 1-8 yards; for a misses' size, 1 yard. To make design No. 2, it will require 1 1-8 yards for a ladies' size, and 1 yard for a misses' size. To make design No. 3 it will require 3-4 of a yard for a ladies' size, and 5-8 of a yard for misses' size.

The pattern, which is No. 6599 and retails for 20 cents, is cut in two sizes, for ladies and misses, both sizes being included in one pattern.

NO. 6577—CHILD'S APRON.

White nainsook and embroidered edging made this neat and simple apron for a little girl. The front and sides are prettily gored, and joining the loose backs by shouler seams, the arm's eye being finished by a narrow facing. The lower falls in graceful fullness and is hemmed deeply, broad strings being inserted in the side seams that tie in a pretty bow, with ends in center back. A gathered frill of embroidery finishes the round, low neck, the back edges being embroidered and closed with buttons and buttonholes. Aprons in this style



6577—CHILD'S APRON.

NO. 6577—CHILD'S APRON.

can be made from plain and dotted Swiss, cross-barred, striped and plain cambric, dimity, percale, or gingham. The ruffle can be made of the material, edged with lace or narrow embroidery.

The quantity of 36-inch material required to make this apron for a child two years old, is 2 yards; for one eight years old, 2 1-4 yards; for one ten years old, 2 1-2 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6577, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in five sizes, for a two, four, six, eight and ten years old child.

READ THE OFFER :

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full descriptions and directions—as the number of yards of material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress.

For ladies give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

To get BUST and BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

TO REACH CONSTANTINOPLE.

WHAT GUNBOATS WOULD FIND IN THE DARDANELLES.

Naval Engineers Say Constantinople Cannot be Successfully Assaulted by Water.

Naval engineers are of the opinion that Constantinople cannot be successfully assaulted by water. They claim that the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus offer a protection that practically means the destruction of any fleet that should attempt to approach the city without the Turk's consent. The Dardanelles from Sestos and Abydos to the Sea of Marmora is filled with torpedoes. The high, rocky shores bristle with a double line of fortresses. The entrance to the Dardanelles is narrow. The current is strong and nature has done everything to make the straits impregnable, except to furnish the guns. The forts on each side are built upon modern principles and mount Krupp guns of heavy caliber.

The two largest forts are at the narrows, the one called the Namazieh battery at Killid Bahar and the other the Medjidieh, a little to the northward of the town of Chanak. Both command the approach to the narrows and can deliver a cross fire that would make a big hole in any modern fleet. At Fort Medjidieh there are six heavy Armstrong guns, besides ten of the biggest of the Krupp manufacture. The Namazieh battery's armament, too, is very heavy, 20 22-centimeter Krupps. There are ten other batteries and forts between there and the Sea of Marmora, but they are of minor consequence.

Since the war of 1877 the Turks have reconstructed these forts and put in modern armament.

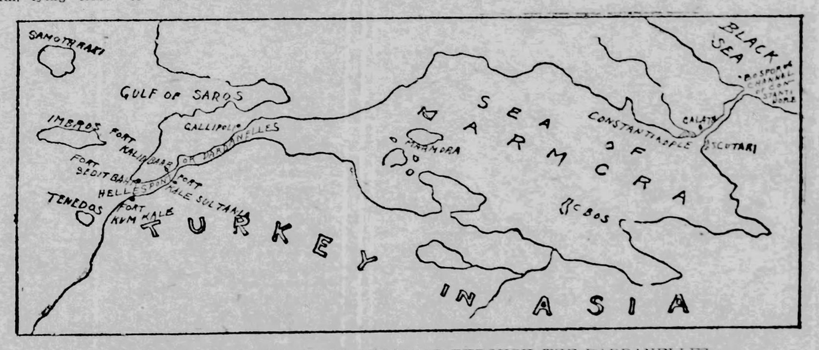
The forts are not the chief reliance. The Turk has taken to the torpedo in a way that will astonish his enemies. The recent naval battles at the Yalu River and Port Arthur show the terrible effect of the modern torpedo when intelligently handled. The bottom of the Dardanelles is lined with torpedoes, and there are a number of submarine mines. The torpedoes are arranged to be fired by electricity from shore.

Nearly all these fortresses along the Dardanelles have been built for many years, some for centuries. They have been remodeled again and again to keep pace with the modern progress in warfare.

Two new forts have been constructed within the last ten years not far from the western end of the strait. They are called the new castles of Europe and Asia, and are the complement of the old castles of Europe and Asia on the Bhospohrus. These two new forts are the chief reliance of the Turks for the defense of the channel from any hostile invasion. They are perfectly equipped with the best armament, much of which was made at the Turkish arsenal at Pierl Pasha.

Coming to Constantinople from the east, through the Bosphorus from the Black Sea, are heavy batteries on almost every point on either side. At the two Koyas, where the channel of the Bosphorus narrows, there is a formidable array of fortifications. They are arranged for a cross-fire, and five of them are of recent construction. These mount thirty heavy Krupp guns each and are capable of sinking any war ship.

The towns along the south shore of the Black Sea are well fortified. Batoum, lying close to the Russian



THE APPROACH TO CONSTANTINOPLE THROUGH THE DARDANELLES

frontier, is protected with five forts mounting big Krupp guns. Trebizond, Erzeroum and Sinope briefly complete the Turk has been busily fortifying his frontiers since his last war with Russia, and he is now in a better position to fight than ever before.

The city of Constantinople itself occupies a triangular promontory above the Propontis. It has been strongly fortified on all sides, including the side washed by the sea and that which is the base of the triangle and connects it with the mainland. The walls are twelve miles, sweeping from sea to sea, running along the whole length of the harbor and terminating in the celebrated fortress of the Seven Towers. At some points the foundation of the walls is formed by huge masses of rock, a species of architecture still to be traced in a few of the most ancient Grecian structures and formerly termed Cyclopaean. In other ports, particularly on the side of Marmora, the masonry commences regularly from the edge of the water. The most ancient portion of the wall is necessarily that which inclosed the ancient Byzantium, now known as the Seraglio Point, where the apex of the triangle divides the Propontis from the port, and instead of being peopled by the busy multitude of the city, is left in the stateliness of its gilded seat in the shade and overhanging groves. These walls that are now standing were built over 1,000 years ago.

—Box 72, Frankfort, Ind., offers to exchange its general stock of merchandise for real estate and some cash.

SAINT JOHN BAPTIST.

The last and greatest Herald of Heaven's King,
Girt with rough skins, hies to the deserts wild,
Among that savage brood the woods forth bring,
Which he more harmless found than man, and mild.
His food was locusts, and what there doth spring,
With honey that from virgin hives distill'd;
Parch'd body, hollow eyes, some uncouth thing
Made him appear, long since from earth exiled.
There burst he forth: "All ye whose hopes rely
On God, with me amidst these deserts mourn,
Repent, repent, and from all errors turn!"
Who listened to his voice obey'd his cry.
Only its echoes, which he made relent,
Rung from their flinty caves: "Repent! Repent!"
—William Drummond (1585-1649).

Norwegian Waterfalls.

In Norway there is at present considerable speculation in waterfalls, which are purchased for their water power rather than for scientific purposes. The fall at Rados, for instance, on the River Kniva, was recently disposed of for £75,000. It will be used by an aluminum factory.

Not Suitably Equipped.

Commander—Captain, you will attack the enemy as soon as it is dark.
Captain of Militia—Preposterous!
"What do you mean, sir?"
"Why, I don't suppose there is a man in my command who has a dress-coat with him."—Puck.

CONGRESSMAN SERENO E. PAYNE, OF NEW YORK

Sereno E. Payne, who, under the law of senority, would become chairman of the House committee on ways and means in the present Congress, served in the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, Fifty-first, Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses and was defeated for the nomination for the Fiftieth Congress by Newton W. Nutting, of Oswego. In both the Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses he served on the ways and means committee and in each occupied third place among the minority members, Mr. Reed, of Maine, now speaker, and Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, since promoted to the Senate, ranking him in the order named.

HOLIDAY NOVELTIES

A new neck frill purposely designed for a Christmas gift is a creation of black chiffon, black ostrich feather trimming and bright little bunches of holly berries and leaves. The chiffon is arranged in a full ruche with soft black feathers, while the gay little clusters of holly are caught here and there among the folds. In the front there are two long ends of the chiffon accordion plaited and finished with a curly black feather trimming. The ends reach below the waist line and the whole neck frill is extremely effective.

• • • •

There are new puff boxes designed for Christmas which would delight the heart of any woman. In size they are not much larger round than a silver dollar. They are made of repousse gold and the cover is an exquisitely painted miniature. The puff ball itself is a wee bit of a thing with a tiny gold handle. The whole affair is no larger than a bon bonniere. It will be found useful to take to the theater or a dance.

• • • •

The chatelaine bag is seen in a variety of new designs for the holidays. It makes a Christmas present for maid or matron not to be despised. In the leather bags those made of elephant's hide are the newest. They are mounted in gold, which combines well with the delicate brown of the leather. The most expensive are ornamented with the owner's monogram in gold. The uncut velvet bags, mounted in gold, combined with enamelling, are wonderfully beautiful. Green is the favorite color, and the mountings show deep reds and dull blues mingled with the gold. With these bags there are soft narrow uncut velvet belts, studded with vari-colored jewels.

• • • •

The writing pads in their Christmas dress are most attractive. Those which are selling at the highest prices have the corners capped with burnt ivory, richly ornamented with gold. The floral writing pad is another expensive novelty. An enamel flower is used to cap each corner. One pad contained pale and deep shades of heliotrope blotting-paper. Its foundation was of heliotrope suede, and in each corner was blotting paper was held in place by a wonderfully beautiful enamelled pansy. The writing pads with the corners in Dresden china are less expensive and very pretty, while the pad which has its Persian ribbons may be made at home, costs but little and yet makes a useful Christmas gift.

—Nervous women will find relief in Hood's Sarsaparilla, because it enriches the blood and thus strengthens the nerves.

MADE A MAN OF FARRAGUT.

He Realized That Gambling and Grog Meant Only Failure.

Admiral D. G. Farragut, America's foremost naval commander, reached the turning point in his career at a very early age, according to a statement in "Turning Points in Successful Careers." It is well known that Farragut entered the navy when a little more than 9 years old. During the next year or two the boy got to be about as bad a boy as one of his age could well be. In after years, when he reached the zenith of rank and fame, he related to a friend this crisis in his career. Said the old admiral:

"When I was a little more than 10 years old my father, Master Commandant George Farragut, was sent in a sloop of war to New Orleans to watch the supposed movements of Aaron Burr. I went with him as a midshipman. I had some qualities that I thought made a man of me. I could swear like a carib-bean pirate, could drink as stiff a glass of grog as the toughest old salt and could smoke like a volcano. I was great at cards, and was fond of gambling in every shape.

"At the close of dinner one day my father turned everybody out of the cabin, locked the door and said to me:

"'David, what do you mean to be?'

"'I mean to follow the sea,' I said.

"'Follow the sea!' exclaimed father. 'Yes, be a poor, miserable, drunken sailor before the mast, kicked and cuffed about the world, and die in some fever hospital in a foreign clime.'

"'No, father,' I replied, 'I will tread the quarter deck and command, as you do.'

"'No, David; no boy ever trod the quarter deck with such principles as you have and such habits as you exhibit. You will have to change your whole course of life if you ever become a man.'

"Then," continued the admiral, "my father left me and went on deck. I was stunned and mortified at the rebuke. I thought over and repeated to myself what he had said, and then I resolved to change my life. From that time and until the present I have never uttered an oath, taken a drop of intoxicating liquor, or handled a card. Shortly after this episode I became a Christian, and that settled my temporal as well as my moral destiny."

A Learned Emperor.

Frederick II., of Prussia, known as The Great, was also styled The Philosopher from his love of the philosophy and art of the French encyclopedic school. Leo VI., Emperor of the East, was also so called, because of his love of abstract speculation.—Boston Herald.

Almost Empty-Handed.

Candidate—I put myself in the hands of my friends.
Friend—Is that all?—Detroit Tribune.

TOM REED'S TONGUE.

Will It Bar the Maine Man as a Presidential Nominee?

Tom Reed's tongue has lost none of its sharpness. He tries his best to blunt its keen edge, but now and then nature will have its way. Not long ago, says Walter Wellman in the Chicago Times-Herald, Mr. Reed was tempted by some of his Congressional friends to talk about the presidents he had known, and the result was a bit of enjoyable satire in Mr. Reed's characteristic vein. I think I understand Mr. Cleveland," Reed began. "He is a man who does the best he can within the limits of his understanding. It is only just to him to put in this qualification. Cleveland is courageous, especially when he has reason to believe the guns are not loaded. Though he has never been to war, Mr. Cleveland thoroughly understands the difference between bullets and blank cartridges. I have met Mr. Cleveland, and he pleased me by his directness. There is no nonsense about him. He is not thinking about himself at all. You know the man in the White House has to steel himself against flattery. Every fellow wants to tell him what a thing of beauty he is, how sweet his voice, how nice his hair, and they are all after cheese. I once heard a fellow flattering Hayes. I thought Hayes would gorge, but he actually swallowed it and appeared to like it. Harrison was not built that way. No one could flatter him. He came to Washington with such a good opinion of himself that no one could add anything that would please him."

Some people think that Mr. Reed's tongue will keep him out of the White House. I met a man the other day, a well-known Republican, who said: "Tom Reed will never be President. He has abused too many big men. If there is any one he hasn't railed at I'd like to know who it is. He sneered at Hayes, indulged in witticisms at Garfield's expense, growled at Arthur, damned Harrison. Do you suppose the friends of the dead Presidents and of the living Presidents are going to permit Reed to get the nomination? Not much." But Tom Reed's witticisms and sneers should not be taken too seriously. It's just a way he has, and he doesn't mean nything by it. With all his sharpness of tongue Reed is a just man. He loves to swish the rapier of his rhetoric, but he is a fair fighter. Besides, even the victims of sarcasm can come very near to forgiving it when it is as clever as Tom Reed's is.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

THE MIZPAH RING.

A fair-haired lass and a dark-eyed lad
At an open gateway stand,
He wipes the tears from her dewy eyes,
And this is her trembling hand;
"Wear this, my love, till I return
And make you my willing bride,"
Then on her finger he placed a gold ring,
With this motto engraved outside.

Chorus:—
"Mizpah!" "Mizpah!"
"Angels keep watch, between you and me,
When absent one from another are we."
"Mizpah!" "Mizpah!"
'Tis but a simple thing—
But ah—what a world of meaning
There is in that Mizpah ring.

But one sad day she lost the ring
From her finger in the grass;
Her heart was filled with doubt and dread.
Fearing harm might come to pass;
Then soon she heard that his ship was wrecked.
That he to a raft did cling,
And for long weary days she grieved and mourned
For the loss of her Mizpah ring.

Chorus.

Then one glad day she found the ring
Where she lost it, in the grass,
And the dark-eyed lad returned all safe,
Loving still his fair-haired lass;
Then soon at the altar's side they stood,
While the church bells chimed ding-dong!
And on her finger he slipped a gold band
Along side of the Mizpah ring.
Chorus.

—Rochester Post-Express.

If you want a sure relief for pains in the back, side, chest, or limbs, use an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

BEAR IN MIND—Not one of the host of counterfeits and imitations is as good as the genuine.

BLADE WASHING MACHINE.

BETTER THAN EVER.

CHEAPER THAN EVER.

To satisfy the demands of our subscribers we will offer The Blade Washer again as a premium this season, for a large number of these machines will give our readers the benefit of this chine is $5.00 We will send the Blade The Weekly Blade one year for only $1.75 (former price $3.00), or the Blade Washer and two copies of The Weekly Blade one year to different addresses, for $4.00. We will send the Blade Washer FREE to any one sending us a club of six subscribers and $6.00 all at one time. The Blade Washer is the only perfect machine on this kind in the market. It saves time, labor, soap and clothes. A child can operate it. Directions with each machine. The Washer is carefully boxed and crated, and shipped by freight and the purchaser pays the freight on receipt of the machine. The charges are very small. This is one of the best offers ever made by a paper to its subscribers and every family using The Blade should have one of these labor saving machines. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

EIGHT-WORD POEMS.

A novel competition was recently gotten up by a London journal called Answers, in which prizes were offered for the best eight-word poems. The editor desired 1,500 and received 15,000. Here are some of the best.

In a Nutshell.
Great snake,
Boa constrictor.
Horror froze
Garden hose.

His Remedy.
Noble end—
Lose bets;
Murrican girl
Title gets.

We've Spared It.
Little poem,
Lacks fire;
Sent back
Kitchen fire.

A Good Suggestion.
New woman;
Old man;
Mash 'em
Best plan!

Jilted.
Brain whirl;
Madly jealous;
My girl
Other fellow's.

Sad Fate.
Escape gas;
Candle—ass!—
Found escape!
Yards crape.

The Sequel.
Man, bike;
Girl, trike;
Both caught;
Tandem bought.

The Color Was Not Fast.
Lady bold;
Hair gold;
Rain—black!
Hair black!

How It Was Done.
Angler firm,
Little worm;
Silly fish,
Dainty dish.

His Destination.
Hunter, bear,
Struggling pair,
Man inferior,
Gone interior.

Very Natural Too.
Boating excursion,
Sudden immersion.
Home effect—
Wedding expected!

Inevitable.
Betting man,
Systems plan.
Races ran,
Sandwichman.

The Old, Old Story
Sweet Maria;
Lone house;
"Murder! Fire!"
Poor mouse.

Laconic.
What's life,
Without wife?
Why I know!
Better so!

Inverted.
Girl, bicycle;
Band, brass,
Slip, whirl,
Bicycle?—girl

Happy Thought.
Story books,
Meager fare;
Patent soap,
Millionaire!

**S

RELEASE.

Some day I shall gladly answer to my name;
Afterward, it may be, I shall know why came
The call so late; why, the long, long years,
So full of weariness and toil, so dark with fears
Were mine.

I may not linger, list'ning near the gate
Of exit, I must yet work and wait,
'Till the long days have worn out the years,
And the summons to the life beyond all fears,
Is mine.

—Louise Houghton.

TORMENTING FRIENDS.

THE TELEPHONES THAT OFTEN MAKE LIFE A BURDEN.

Inventions That Increase Comfort, but Also Multiply Perplexities.

Telephones are queer things!

Have one put into your house, and it instantly turns into a means for the cultivation of patience and good temper. Unless one has the disposition of an angel—and few people have—he is exasperated to the point of madness several times a day.

Have this self-same tormentor taken out, and you feel as if a dear and valued friend had gone—a friend who was ever ready to save you trouble and make daily living easier.

Now what is one to do?

I hurled a question like this at Sophonisba the other day, after having been tried beyond measure by the antics of this mark of advanced civilization in our domicile.

She smiled sweetly. When Sophonisba smiles like that I know that I am coming to grief.

"Take your own medicine," she said calmly.

"What is that?" I asked with a brave front, but inwardly quaking.

"Cultivate self-control by not allowing trifles to disturb you. That is what you believe in, isn't it?" she asked.

There it was. My words coming home like chickens to roost. Of course that is what I believe in, but with that irritating ting-a-ling sounding in my ears just as I had settled myself to work again, I did not want to be reminded of it. It seemed to me as if it heard Sophonisba's words, and wanted to italicize them so I would not be disturbed at any further vagaries it might indulge in.

Down the stairs I went, saying something soothing to myself, seized the transmitter, and putting condensed sweetness into my tones, said, "hello." By the way, it is curious how many octaves the voice may be made to run over in pronouncing that word, and what a variety of expression may be given. If it is a business man who has been disturbed several times for trifles, or who is not in good spirits, he gives the first syllable a rather profane emphasis, following it up with a staccato upon the last. Just before dinner one is apt to get that peculiar tone in all of its beauty, for a full stomach has its effect even in telephone communications. Then again the "hello" may contain a tone of eager expectancy, as if the listener were wondering what good news she was to hear. One can be pretty sure that voice is owned by a young girl. A lazy drawl with an interrogation point after it belongs to the youth who feels that he has no possible interest in anything that can be said through a telephone. Then there are the pleasant intonations of the lady or gentleman who transmit to the unseen caller the courtesy which is a part of their nature.

To return to where my body was standing at the instrument. In reply to my word of inquiry came the question, "Can you fit my dress this morning?" Now as I do not fit dresses; do not know anything about the difficult operation, I was under the necessity of explaining the impossibility of undertaking the job. Careful as I was not to let any sign of vexation at being called away from my work creep into my voice, it did not prevent the tone of injury, as if I were guilty of carelessness, in which the words, "They've given me the wrong number. Ring off, won't you?" were said. I meekly "rung off" and took my way up stairs for the fifth time that morning, resisting with all my might the temptation to repeat an old Methodist hymn that disposed of the evil-doers in a permanent and not altogether pleasant fashion. Had it not been for Sophonisba's reminder, I am afraid I should have succumbed under the strain.

That was not all. Returning to my work again, I was in full swing of the writing of a paper destined to set things straight in the universe when again came the summons from below. Again I paused; again descended to hear something in which I had no concern, and again came back to resume pencil and paper once more. I discarded all thought of reforming the world, in order to pour out my feelings in this column, and to express my sympathy with those who suffer as I suffer.

And yet would I do without the telephone? Would I wish it to be wiped out of existence?

A thousand times no! for, with all the attendant vexations, it simplifies life beyond measure. It makes possible to do by the busy man and woman what otherwise must often remain undone. Life has become so complex in these days; there are so many demands beyond those of the home and business, that were it not for such aids as this they could not be answered. Especially is this true in the larger cities.

Then, if you stop to think of it, there is really nothing of what a half century ago would have been called the luxuries of life, but what are looked upon now as comforts and almost necessities, which does not involve a certain amount of worry and vexation. There were no bursting pipes and consequent plumbers' bills in the old days. The hickory logs blazed upon the hearth, chasing fantastic shadows away into the distant corners. The thought of the great flames roaring merrily up the broad-throated chimney is a pleasant one even now, but in reality burning faces and shivering backs were the rule rather than the exception. Then it took hours and days to send the message that now the lightning carries from sender to receiver. There was no hearing of friendly voices miles and miles away, but if a question was to be asked or answered the weary distance must be traversed in order that it might be done face to face.

There are compensations in all things, and so even when I have worn the carpet threadbare with my journies to and fro, a little reflection makes me thankful for the telephone as for all the other inventions that renders a broader life possible. For it is true that whatever brings us in closer touch with our fellow beings; whatever marks the growth of ideas, marks also the advance of opportunities for greater mental and spiritual development.

I told Sophonisba that this was my conclusion, and that henceforth I was determined to make the telephone a means of saving grace, no matter how often the lines were crossed, thus disclosing my neighbor's business to me, or the wrong numbers given, compelling useless journies. And Sophonisba remarked, "It is well!"

EMILY S. BOUTON.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Dainty Tokens of Our Good Will Toward Men.

Christmas Calendar.

The three hundred and sixty-five pages of thin, white paper, cut square and glued together at the top and sides, block-fashion, in the usual manner, are fastened on a large piece of card-board, gilded and decorated with fancy lettering; a loop of yellow satin ribbon serves to hang it up by.

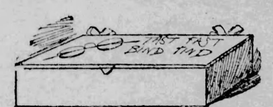
Each slip of paper bears the proper date and day, from January 1st to December 31st, and on each is a verse o prose sentence selected by a friend from some favorite author, copied in that friend's own handwriting, and signed in the left-hand corner with his or her initials.

There are over fifty friends represented in my calendar, including several little children, who wanted to have a finger in the pie.

Several weeks before Christmas, the friend who planned this charming gift, having had the three hundred and sixty five slips cut and properly printed, or type-written, distributed them among my friends, who wrote the wish or thought that appealed to them, returning the slips to headquarters, where they were collected and placed in the proper order and fastened to the decorated background.—Miss Greenleaf.

Spectacle Case.

Cut two pieces of stiff card-board seven inches by two and one-half; two seven inches by one and a half, and two, one and one-half inches by two and one-half. Lay over one side of each piece that which will make the inner part of the box, a thick layer of perfumed wadding. Cover each carefully with heavy linen on the outside and India silk on the inside. Then overhand the bottom, the sides, and the ends neatly and firmly together, and attach the cover with two bows of narrow ribbon. Paint on the cover a pair of spectacles, with some appropriate motto, or any other form of decoration you may prefer, if you are an expert with the brush. If not, em-



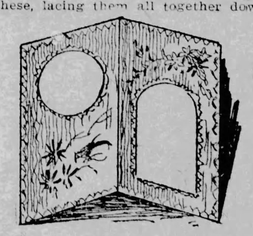
broider on the linen, before covering the box, some suitable design.

Old-red, olive green, old-blue and dull gold-color, all can be found in the linen, and any one will make a useful as well as an attractive box.—Annie Laurie.

Photograph Case.

Take a piece of heavy water-color paper twenty-two inches long and eight and one half inches wide, and divide the length into four equal parts.

Cut places for photographs of any desired shape in the center divisions, and fold the two outer ones back of these, lacing them all together down

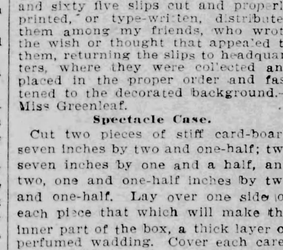


the center with narrow ribbon or gold cord. Outline the edges of the openings with gold paint, and trace a design over or under each in colors.

If preferred the paper may be covered with silk decorated with an embroidered or painted design.—Grace Sanford.

Handkerchief Case.

Take a piece of buckram (or any other stiff goods) eight inches wide, and fourteen inches long. Cover it on one side with a basket work of cardinal and canary colored satin ribbons, leaving a space three inches wide at each end to be covered with plain canary-colored satin embroidered or paint-



ed with a design of blue corn-flowers and pale green leaves. Line the case with yellow satin, quilted over scented wadding; finish the edge with a cord of cardinal and yellow, and fasten the case with cardinal ribbon. Any other combination of colors may, of course, be used.—Mrs. Haynes.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

"Blest be Those Halls Where Hospitality and Welcome Reign."

The committee which was to decide upon the prize menu have completed their work and one and all affirm that there was never a more difficult task. The committee was selected from among practical housekeepers and in making their decision they took into consideration not only the toothsomeness of the dishes mentioned, but the cost as adapted to the greater number of cities and towns; the variety given; the practicability of using what would be left from one meal for another, and last, but not least when a person is her own cook as well as housekeeper, the convenience in preparing the meals.

Some of the menus were more especially adapted to certain localities, being expensive in others. One by a farmer's wife was particularly good for farmers' families, while for those living in cities it might not be so well suited. After giving the most careful consideration of all these particulars, the committee decided that while every menu submitted was really worthy of a prize, that two must be given; one for the friends of the Blade who live at a distance from markets and the other for dwellers in cities who have to buy everything used by them.

In order that their decision might be perfectly unbiased, the papers submitted were numbered in the order in which they were received and judged by their numbers, and no member of this committee will know till they read this issue of the Blade, that one prize was awarded by them to Mrs. Jennie S. Turner, Toledo, O., and one to Mrs. D. D. Bamford, Clayton, N. Y.

The prize menus will be given first, and the others from time to time in this column.

After Thanksgiving dinners come for many families a season of "left-overs." These may be prepared so that they will be better even than at first and will appear in such forms as to give no hint of having been in the presence of the family before. Here is one called

Meat and Tomato Scallop.

Simmer 1 qt. of tomatoes for fifteen minutes and press through a sieve. Melt 1 tablespoonful of butter and in it rub till smooth 2 tablespoonfuls of flour. Add the tomato and cook till thick, stirring constantly to prevent burning. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Chop any kind of cold cooked meat and put into a pudding pan in alternate layers with the tomato sauce till the dish is filled. Cover the top with bread crumbs and bits of butter and bake in a quick oven for twenty minutes.

White Fruit Cake.

Beat to a cream 2 cupfuls of butter with 3 cupfuls of sugar, add the beaten yolks of 5 eggs and 1 cupful of milk. Mix in gradually 3 1-2 cupfuls of flour. With another 1-2 cupful of flour mix 1 lb raisins, 1 1-2 lbs citron cut in bits, 1 teaspoonful of cinnamon and 1 small nutmeg grated. When this is well mixed with the other ingredients beat the whites of the eggs very light and add, with 2 teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Bake 45 minutes in a moderate oven.

"Plant blessings, and blessings will bloom.
Plant hate, and hate will grow;
You can sow to-day, to-morrow shall bring
The blossom that shows what sort of thing
Is the seed—the seed that you sow."

The Blade has always taken a decided stand in favor of Temperance, and the members of the Household and Cozy Corner have done much, by their example and letters, to help the good work. When one thinks of the thousands of boys and girls who joined the Blade Temperance Legion, and of the immense influence they will have among their friends, one cannot but feel that a great step has been taken in the right direction. If these boys and girls keep their promise to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors till they are twenty-one years of age, there is very little danger of their falling into temptation that they cannot resist, after that time, and by their example they must, undoubtedly, influence many of their associates, and the seed they thus sow shall bear fruit for years after they are done with life.

This subject has been brought up at this time more especially by letters received asking if the Temperance movement was dead, some thinking that because of the omission to place the record of the Legion conetantly in the Blade, that it was given up. This is not so, though the crowded condition of our columns somewhat prevents the publication of the names of those who wish to be enrolled on the right side, the names are, nevertheless, there, and the record is kept.

Just now, at the time of feasts and festivals when many, too many, persons consider that wines and other liquors are a necessary part of every occasion of rejoicing and thankfulness, there are many times, temptations thrown in the way of young men—and young women, too—that may lead to serious trouble for them later on, and every one should remember this and have a care that they do nothing that shall by any possibility do harm to another, for we all are, in one sense, our brother's keeper.

While it is true that to save the man, we must first save the boy from bad habits, still there is much that may be accomplished with older people if we only go to work in the right manner, and below we give a suggestion for this work, sent us by a most earnest worker; a plan that can easily be tried in any place, whether it be an isolated saloon by the country wayside, or in the city where so large a number of these places may be found, and if this plan is tried, in the spirit of love and charity, not only toward the persons who so frequent these saloons, but toward the men who sell the liquor, we have the word of this correspondent that much good can be accomplished. It is a sad fact, however, that many enthusiastic workers in this cause do more harm than good for the reason that they assume that a saloonkeeper is always an unprincipled man, who would sooner hurt his fellow men than not, and that there are no exceptions to this rule, which is not a fact, and if these men retaliate by saying, as one did, that it is quite as bad for a woman to be intemperate in language when working for the cause as for a man to be intemperate in drink, we cannot feel surprised. With malice toward none and charity for all is a good motto in this work as in all others.

M. E. H. writes: "The sower soweth the word." A new plan has been suggested by the superintendent of evangelistic work of the W. C. T. U., of this district, to try to arrest the attention of the saloon proprietor and his visitors, viz.: Write plainly a text of Scripture, giving chapter and verse where it may be found; also one sentence only, trying to persuade him to stop and think about the work he is doing before it is too late. This has been tried in more than 100 saloons in the city and the work is going on.

God's word says: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55, 11.

More helpers are asked to try this method. Not one unkind word has been spoken and good is being done.

Intemperance is not the only evil on which the friends of the Cozy Corner feel called upon to express their opinion. V. O. Walden has this to say about card playing:

The Blade is a paper that has a wide circulation and thousands of readers and its moral and religious tone is unexceptionally good, yet some of the writers for the Cozy Corner and also of the M. G. R.'s express the opinion that there is no harm in card playing. Now I would take issue with them in this, for I consider it a most pernicious and hurtful practice, especially amongst professors of religion, those who have come out from the world and are required to deny themselves, take up the cross daily and follow Christ. They think it is a harmless amusement, but stop and think of the influence it will have on the family when they see father and mother with their Christian visitors gathered around the card table and with every faculty absorbed in the game, will play till a late hour. Will not the children become intensely interested and learn to play, and when they go out they will meet with those who will invite them into a regular gambling house, telling them that they only play for amusement (and they have been taught that there is no harm in that), then they are induced to put up small stakes "just for fun you know."

Thus they are led on by degrees till they become confirmed gamblers, and the fascination and allurements are as strong and irresistible as the appetite for alcohol when once formed. There seems to be a fascination about games of all kinds. I have noticed that families where they have a checker-board, or dominos, or even the game of authors, would spend all their spare time playing to the exclusion of everything else, even to attend to business or to rest. Now there are other amusements just as good and not so demoralizing which may be innocently indulged in. As for dancing all I have to say is no true devoted Christian has any desire to dance, as the fascinations appear to be as strong as for gambling and drinking.

Anything can become harmful if carried so far as to absorb all of our interest and time. Instances have been heard of when a person would neglect every duty of home, or even business, to attend to church services. Not that they might help others, or that they felt that they needed such frequent attendance, but the truth was they liked to go—enjoyed the daily or more frequent services of the church, and persuaded themselves that it was duty, when it was, in reality, selfish indulgence. And when, very often, they would have shown a spirit of Christian, self-denial by remaining away from the church to help some member of their family who was overworked on account of being obliged to perform the neglected work of the church-goer. To be temperate does not apply altogether to the use of spirituous liquors.

Flora Chase comes with some comforting words for all who, like "Discontented," feel that they are not fully appreciated.

How many of us like "discontented" are sighing over common place lives, feeling that they have talents that might have made them useful to the world, talents that are being gradually smothered and crushed out by surroundings amidst which destiny has placed them? Ah! do we not all sometimes bitterly rebel against fate, so dark and aimless seem our lives? But each one has been placed in that sphere for which she is best fitted, and whatever our lot "there is a work for us to do."

If we but make one other's life happier and brighter we have not lived in vain. Some of the noblest, most beautiful lives are the common-place ones. Be ever ready to speak a cheering word and lend a helping hand, and opportunity will everywhere present itself, and what an inspiration to deeds of kindness for we remember the words of our Saviour: "If ye do it unto one of the least of these ye do it unto me."

There is an aspiration planted in every soul, a reaching out, a longing for something not possessed. Perfect happiness is not found in this world. Let us remember this and not give way to discontent, but remember—

"The moon and the stars are common-place things,
And the flowers that bloom and the bird that sings;
But dark were the world and sad our lot,
If the flowers should fail and the sun shine not;
And God, who studies each separate
Out of commonplace lives makes His beautiful whole."

Let us then take courage, lose all thought of self in being useful to others, be really unselfish, and not care what others do, but rather do the very best we can.

And Lauretta, and the lonely, widowed mother have been in the hearts and thoughts of the Cozy Corner friends, one of whom, Evelyn, Ohio, comes with words especially for them.

Dear Sisters of the Cozy Corner, how eagerly I look for your kind, helpful letters every week, and how much good they do me when I read them. Lauretta, read this little verse and perhaps it will show you that money is not the only wealth.

A little word in kindness spoken, a motion or a tear,
Has often healed a heart that's broken, and made a friend sincere.

Dear mother, left with your little children, I can truly sympathize with you, for my own mother was left in the same way, and I can only say as she did: "Trust in God who has promised to be a friend to the widow and orphans, His promise never fails."

This week a friend who signs himself Jeffry, who is nearing the eighty-third milestone of his journey toward the Beyond, gives us a word of encouragement, and tells us how some things appear when seen by comparison with former days:

"During the latter part of the present century there has been vast improvements in many things, and in various directions, yet not in every particular. Pope says an honest man is the noblest work of God. Men are no more honest now than those in the days of the log cabin. That intolerable nuisance, the tramp, was then unknown. Mob violence and crime is on the increase, chiefly caused, I think, by anarchist and other undesirable immigrants from the old world, which our government should, by all means, promptly check. In domestic economy and felicity in the marriage relation, we have certainly retrograded, advanced backward,, else why is it that scarcely a term of court is without applicants for divorce. One young wife wants divorce and maiden name restored, another, divorce and possession of her children, cause, abuse of plaintiff by drunken defendant, or in upper circles, it is divorce and alimony, rich husband proved recreant to his marriage vow, imbibes too much wine, entirely too friendly with strange women, etc. This was not the way when I was young; then, when the boys and girls were married they were married for life. Heart to heart, hand in hand they nobly surmounted the difficulties of life, and death alone separated them. It is possible that the little word of four letters—love—may have had something to do in this difference, for we all agree that "better is a dinner of herbs where love is" than a stalled ox and hatred therewith."

Sarah Jane reminds us that now we are well past Thanksgiving, we should give some thoughts to the next holiday—Christmas, and mentions a few things that can be prepared for gifts.

Christmas is so near that I would say a word in regard to it. So many of us neglect the duty of remembering our friends and dear ones because we can not afford it. This is such a great mistake; our friends do not care for expensive presents, only some little token; they will appreciate it just as much, for they will know it was all we could do. Then there is the pleasure they will have in knowing our thought of them. At Christmas time one can find such pretty little poems at a very nominal cost. Would it not be better to send a dozen of them to different friends than give only one expensive present to one friend? Then there are the pretty little things to make. Garters, for instance; they are nice, useful and very inexpensive. Good silk webbing can be had for 30 cents a yard, three-quarters of a yard makes a pair. Then buy four large brass rings, large enough for the webbing to go through easily; get silk the same color as elastic and crochet around the ring. Put two of the rings together, one on top of the other, and fasten one end of the elastic tightly to them. Take the other end of elastic, put it through the center of both rings. Separate the rings and put the same end between them. This forms a buckle, and the garter can be adjusted to any size required. If I have not been too tedious, I may come again.

Come again, Sarah Jane, and next time, please give your street and number, will you?

M. J. C., has a hair switch that she wishes to bleach, and would be very grateful to any one who will send a recipe and full particulars how to obtain the desired result.

Caroline M. is very anxious to change her red hair—"real brick-dust red," she says, to a darker and more desirable color. Who will help her by sending information on the subject?

Christmas Giver wishes to know how to wash silk embroidered dolleys, center pieces, etc. Should they be starched or not?

Eloise has had a beautiful lamp presented to her as one of her bridal gifts, but, alas, it has a duplex burner, which she does not know how to clean, and as no one in her little town has such a lamp, she comes to the Cozy Corner for instructions.

Christine, in answer to Modena, suggests that she shall buy some goods that will harmonize with her old dress, and make the front width of the skirt, puffs for the sleeves, wide collar, or revers of the new goods. Use the old material for the remaining parts of the dress. If the stitches where the ruffle was sewed on should show, they can be covered with bias folds of the new goods.

THE HEART OF OLD HICKORY.

Volume of Stories by Will Allen Dromgoole, a New Writer.

Who is Will Allen Dromgoole? She—for it is a woman who bears this name—is a young Southern writer who is winning her way to fortune and to fame. Her work first appeared in The Arena, at least that which has

WILL ALLEN DROMGOOLE.

made her known to the literary readers, though she had written stories for various publications before, and once won a prize offered by the Youth's Companion. Recently a work from her pen has been given to the public by the Arena company, of Boston, with the title at the head of this article. It is the name of the first story—a story full of pathos from beginning to end. In fact, through each and all of these stories there are fine touches of mingled humor and pathos that show the author's power. Fiddling His Way to Fame is the second story and the one which won for the writer the friendship of the Arena. Another is A Wonderful Experience Meeting, and another The Heart of the Woods, all marked by the same delicacy of touch, the same rare appreciation of the finer side of human nature.

Miss Dromgoole is a young Tennessee girl and loves her native state intensely. "Personally, she is small of stature, fragile in appearance, intense in her nature, and of a highly strung nervous organism." Much good work may yet be expected from her pen.

To those who like stories in which the native speech of the people is preserved, this volume The Heart of Old Hickory would come as a charming Christmas gift.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

Greet Four New Additions to Their Lively Conference Meeting.

Four new members were admitted to the Circle this week, their names being Fay, Pastry Cook, Brunette and Clod-hopper.

The old members who answered to the roll-call were: New England Girl, Don, Dick, Tobin, Massy, Bitter-Sweet, Humpy Dumpy, Chinook Wind, Smart Alec, Ground Cherry and Sweet Nightingale.

Esther:—Why did you write on both sides of your paper, my dear? It was too bad that your good letter had to be lost on that account.

Mossy:—Send the article by all means; if it is too long for this department, it can be used in Our Young Folks column.

Comet:—To obtain a badge you have only to send fifty (50) cents to The Blade, Toledo, O., and it will be forwarded to you at once.

Humpy Dumpy:—That is work that Miss Prudence never tires of. As the M. G. R. is not a secret society, she can not understand why your church should object to your wearing the badge.

N. E. Girl:—The Chapetone commends you for writing to other state presidents, since you have none of your own.

O. W. C. propose to give a Christmas Tree entertainment for the benefit of their own department, and the M. G. R's. Any one, therefore, who wishes to give a present (on paper) to a member of either circle will please write to Miss Prudence or the Schoolmistress about it before the 26th of December. Tell what you wish to give, and to whom you wish to give it, and add any hints for games, refreshments, etc., that you wish to. The Wonder column reporter is to write up the affair, and it will doubtless prove highly entertaining. A prize will be given the person receiving the greatest number of presents.

All communications for this department should be addressed to The Blade, Toledo, O., "M. G. R."

An excellent contribution to the Indiana report by Raven, was received too late for insertion, and will be found in this column. As several members have lately inquired for this popular M. G. R., Miss Prudence hopes he will send us a short letter before many weeks.

Clod-hopper, W. Va.:—"W. Va. Grey Eyes seems to think every woman is capable of attaining a good business education. There are many women as well as men, who have this education, but do not use it for a good purpose. In many places there are more women then men; if they were all prepared to take men's places, the men would have to take the household duties on their own shoulders. Some women, too, like the taste of whisky as well as the men do; if they are not careful, they will learn the same habit. I esteem Morning Glory's views; women should act as God intended they should."

Fay, Kansas:—"I sometimes wonder if the noms in this circle were chosen for some particular meaning, and if they are appropriate to the writers. If this is the case, I imagine I have some of them pictured very clearly in my mind. To those who have read Dombey and Son, isn't the chapter on "what the waves were always saying," beautiful? I am very fond of reading, and have read many standard works, but I think Dickens is equaled by no one else in power of personal description."

Pastry Cook, Ind.:—"I believe that woman should have the right to vote as well as the ignorant foreigner who doesn't know his naturalization papers from his ticket, and when asked his name by the clerk replies 'Democrat.' If any of our 'sweet sixteens' don't know better than that, I think we had better close our public schools. Forest Neeley, I think that Joan of Arc was braver as a woman than Napoleon was as a man, because it took more grit for her work than for his. If you want another example, I will give it another time."

Brunette, Tenn.:—"How many of the M. G. Rs. attended the S. of V. encampment at Knoxville, Tenn.? The pyrotechnic displays there were beautiful. There are many interesting places in and near this city. Fort Sanders and one of the national cemeteries are there; in the latter are buried more than 3,000 Federal soldiers. The University of Tennessee is located here also. East Tennessee is full of historical places and grand scenery."

New England Girl, Mass.:—"The new woman, as I see her, is a very sensible piece of humanity; she doesn't put on airs, neither does she care for style; she wastes no time curling her hair, and she does not wear bloomers. She neither chews gum, plays cards, dances nor reads novels; nevertheless she is admired wherever she goes. She has a will of her own, and a remarkable faculty of exercising it; she has only to make her wishes known and no one refuses to fulfill them. Contrary to predictions, she cares nothing for woman suffrage, but has some queer ideas concerning woman's rights. Esme Roy's letter would have been O. K. if he had omitted the baked beans."

Dick Tobin, O.:—"I have been silently enjoying the M. G. R. corner, and the squabbling is quite amusing. Philosopher, you are too rash; Raven, fly back to your perch in the circle, and we will not tease you again; Sam Igotus, come often, I think you are forgiven; Oklahoma Boy, where are you? Have you joined the outlaws? Hazel Thornton, your letters are very interesting; Little Onions, we miss your delicious fragrance, do come in, or you will freeze. Bloomers are all right, and our M. G. R. girls are O. K."

Mossy, Mich.:—"Whew! what an explosion some of the boys caused by carelessly handling that rusty old musket called 'woman's rights'! Goodness, gracious, boys, didn't you know it was loaded? But, girls, do you expect to accomplish anything more with your votes, if you are ever allowed to cast them, than you can now by your influence in the home and in society. Look around you and see if there are not some unwritten laws upon the statute books of the several states in the Union. This is a question into which the deeper we dig the more we find to think about."

Bitter Sweet, Mo.:—"What a tumult we seem to be in; everybody thinks differently from their neighbor, and don't more than half like it when they are disagreed with. I think we had all better stop quarreling and pay a little more attention to our state president's call, so that Miss Prudence will not hear so much complaining. Sisterly Sis, I would like to clasp hands with you; 'duty before pleasure' has been a very hard lesson for me to learn. In answer to Doctor's inquiry, I can assure him that I believe in Woman's Rights as much as I ever did, and I think we shall get 'em. As for bloomers, if I ever ride a wheel, I shall wear them; others can do as they please; it is their privilege, and I believe in free-born America. Surely Raven, the croaking of a few others will not drive you from our midst. Come back I implore; I thought your letters splendid."

Chinook Wind, Wash.:—"I will venture into the circle this pleasant warm morning (Nov. 18), feeling thankful that my lot is cast where the blizzard and cyclone are never known, though at times Jack Frost makes his appearance, and the earth is covered with snow. My private opinion on the bloomer question is, that while I admit that a lady has a perfect right to wear any costume that may suit her fancy, so long as the laws of decency are observed, I consider the bloomer costume unnecessary when riding a bicycle, as I have frequently observed ladies in ordinary street costume glide along with apparent ease and enjoyment, presenting to my eyes a much better appearance than if they were rigged out in any other way."

Capt. Nemo, Mo.:—"Many serious questions are still up for discussion that seem to me rather thread-bare; why not have a new one? Looking through the catalogue of human action I see several; for instance: 'The feasibility of discovering the Antarctic continent, if there is one! Please do let the pretty face and suffrage questions have a short respite from constant duty. Thanks little Eva for your agreement with me on novel reading and dancing; my thanks are due for the same reason to Texas Flower, with whom I hope that her state may soon be admitted as a prefix to the panther again started on to the bridge, there was a flash, a deafening roar, and a piercing scream from the panther, as it leaped into the air, and disappeared over the side of the bridge into the gorge below.

Peggy awoke with a start and lisped: "Ise doin' ter dramma's now." A moment later she was clasped in the arms of her thankful and brave-hearted brother, who hastened home with her, to the great relief of the aunt, who was almost beside herself with grief. After supper, when Peggy was put in her little trundle bed, she whispered, "Peggy's so sleepy, but she's doin' to dramma's."

The next day the body of the panther was drawn up to the bridge by means of ropes in the hands of the neighboring mountaineers, when it was found that Tommy's bullet had not touched a vital spot, but that the wound and the great fall to the rocky river bed had together killed the beast. It was among the largest ever slain in that locality. Tommy was a hero.

Peggy is a woman now and does not live in the mountains. Her cheerful sitting room is adorned with a fine panther skin rug, and she often tells her own little Peggy the story connected with the rug, and how a crude telephone helped to save her from the claws of the former owner of that glossy coat, before even the wizard Edison thought of sending various sounds from place to place over a wire. It is very evident that Peggy would never have told this story if the panther had not been frightened by the strange noise borne to it by the bridge cables.

The crude old suspension bridge still hangs over Stony Creek, and last summer when Peggy and little Polly visited the scenes of the mother's youth, the romantic structure was photographed and the picture is the most prized on the walls of that city parlor.—Charles A. Hartley, in Pomeroy (La.) Tribune-Telegraph.

REPORT OF INDIANA M. G. R.'S.

By Miss Laura Gibson, of Delphi, President.

Subject, "The New Woman."

Although the Anti-Debating club in this state undoubtedly has a much larger membership, the Discussion society can at least congratulate itself upon its exclusiveness, two being its regulation number.

Instead of meeting in our hall as before (we never had to meet in a schoolhouse), the president received the members at her own home. Snugly ensconced in rocking chairs, our meeting was delightfully informal, if not particularly enthusiastic. Ivy, a modest little maiden, expressed in a few well-chosen remarks her approbation of the new woman:

"She, by her sympathetic nature, her keener perceptions, and her power to learn from the past, is rapidly coming to the front. Through her ambition and her energy she is becoming just what she desires to be—the ideal woman."

Then our other member, Merry Mae, informed us in a most vigorous fashion of her disapproval of this same new woman, of equal suffrage and bloomers.

"It is my honest opinion," said she, "that the women of to-day have an absurd idea that they are equal to man. If they are, why were they not given the strength of man? Why were they made smaller, with inferior weight of brain?" She told us that woman was mentally, as well as physically, man's inferior, and referred us to the Bible for proof of her assertion.

She suggested that if woman was not the "weaker vessel," that she should take the initiative in love making; should go to the polls, or to war, and allow the masculine members to care for home and little ones.

"I think that women are talented to a certain extent, but I like to see them doing their own duty and letting man's work alone."

The president then read part of a recent article of Margaret Sangster's upon the subject, which seemed to her particularly to the point. This well known writer says: "My idea of the new woman is that she must be physically well, mentally rounded and developed; emotionally, spontaneous and sympathetic; spiritually, devout and full of faith in God. An irreligious woman can never be anything but a weak and imperfect creature.

"What should she avoid? First and above all, let her not be mannish. There is a kind of mannish affectation in the air; one sees the result of this in a sort of swagger in the walk, a slangy manner of talking, a copying of one's brother's vests and ties and hats and coat tails in the dress.

"Do not yield to it, girls. You gain nothing, and you lose much when you try to dress like men or to imitate little peculiarities that are identified with our ideas of men. To be pure, womanly, is the best thing a woman can be."

Our business meeting being over, several of the president's friends dropped in to meet her guests, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a purely social way, light refreshments being a feature.

Before leaving, Merry Mae proposed a subject for the next discussion, which is accordingly given.

"Resolved, That the minister of the gospel holds a more honorable position than the President of the United States."

Miss Prudence congratulates the Indiana president upon her very readable report, and hopes there will be other faithful ones who will avail themselves of the next opportunity of meeting with her.

OUR WONDER COLUMN

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Lanarkshire, Oct 31, 1808; entered the University at Glasgow when about 12 years old, and took the degree of M. A. four years later. His first pastoral charge was in Hamilton, Scotland, in 1839. On May, 18, 1839, he was called to the new Chapel of Ease, in Maxwellton, Dumfries. From here he went to Lady Glenorsby's church, Edinburgh, the Middle Parish church, Paisley, and the church at Liberton, in which latter charge he was at the disruption of the Scotch church in 1843, when he threw his lot with the Evangelical or Free church party. In 1843 he visited this country as deputy from the Free church, Scotland, and while here received the honorary degree of D. D. from Lafayette College, Pennsylvania. In 1865 he was chosen moderator of the Free church of Scotland, general assembly. He died in Edinburgh Sept. 29, 1883, aged 70 years.

INDA.

2.—PRINTER'S PI.

"Het virres vage otu deivers nilea
Natrig sifdet chas canto ivolg.
Cietsaill sumic daswy teh sinep.
Dan sano'ce gonna lolder."

COPPER KING.

3.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

1.—A goddess.
2.—The first name of a well-known Democrat.
3.—Part of the United States.
4.—Improper.
5.—Rise.
6.—An axle on which a wheel turns.
7.—Robust.

Primals and finals give the name of a very interesting study.

SID.

4.—WORD SQUARE.

X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X
X X X X X

1.—A certain class of people in Turkey.
2.—A gentile of the ancient Romans.
3.—One of the nine muses.
4.—A solid, hard substance.
5.—A fortified town in Italy.

C. M. B.

5.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"Peaceful was the night
Wherein the Prince of Light
His reign of peace upon the earth began."

ESME ROY.

6.—QUERY.

Who was "the man in the iron mask?"

ELFA.

Answers to Puzzles of November 28.

1.—A turkey.
2.—Words: Plaintiff, infusoria, linement, silberish, ready-made, irregular, mechanics, primals and finals, Pilgrim Fathers.
3.—Cold meat, Saratoga chips, mixed pickles, spiced rolls, lady fingers, nuts, cocoa.
4.—Pi-rate, pi-racy, pi-let, pi-ano, pi-bald, pi-ous.

Longfellow wrote:
"And thou, too, whose'er thou art,
That readest this brief psalm,
As one to one thy hopes depart,
Be resolute and calm."

Answer to query of November 21, sent by Helen and Alta:

"Gnomes is the name given in the Cabalistic and mediaeval mythology to one of the classes of imaginary beings which are supposed to be the presiding spirits and the mysterious powers of nature in the mineral and vegetable worlds. They have their dwellings within the earth, where they preside especially over its treasures. All are of small size, male and female. The former are often represented in the form of misshapen dwarfs, of whom the well-known Rubezahl or number-nine of German legends is a familiar example.

HELEN.

A gnome is a pithy maxim commonly inverse, and embodying some moral sentiment or wise precept. It belongs to the same class as the proverb, but differs from it in lacking that common and popular acceptance which stamps the latter as with public authority. The use of gnomes is among the ancient nations, especially the orientals; and the literature, both sacred and profane, of most countries abounds with them.

ALTA.

Chat.

Remember the Christmas tree entertainment. Any member of O. W. C. or the M. G. R. who wishes to send a present (on paper) to any other member will please write to Miss Prudence or The Schoolmistress before Dec. 26 stating what they wish to give, to whom they wish to give it, and any hints for games, refreshments, etc., for the entertainment that may think of. Understand this is an imaginary affair, similar to the Reception and Masquerade; all your giving is done without the outlay of any money (saving the postage on your letters), so be as generous as you please and "lift your gifts" "free of giving" to the fullest extent. A prize will be given the lad or lassie receiving the greatest number of imaginary gifts, and the Wonder Column reporter will write up the affair in her best style.

Correct solutions were received from Esme Roy, Alta, Mabel Hall, Pauline and Invalid.

Puzzles were accepted from Marley Cranford and Elfa.

N. Hall sends this solution of his globe and pyramid problem: "About my problem I state one fact; whatever may be the size of the globe, the altitude of the pyramid will equal the diameter of the globe, because the diameter or chord of the globe at that distance from the top exactly equals the diameter of the circle required to form the base of the pyramid. Hence the corners of the base will rest on sides of the globe at their points, and the apex touch the top. In the problem in the December 5 issue 12 inches, its square is 144, and the square of the diameter or chord at the base of the pyramid is 8-9 of 144 or 128, and its root is 11.3137+. Now the square of the chord (128) is to the square of the length of side, which side is 8.9282+; and the square of altitude is 64 being 1-2 the square of side; and the altitude itself is 8 inches. This 8-9, 1-2, and 2-3 apply in all such problems."

Mabel Hall:—You are very welcome; come again.

Pauline:—Has not Mollie Moore got a joke on you concerning "A. Turkey, Esq.?"

Helen is banner puzzler for November; Alta second, and Esme Roy third.

All communications for this department should be addressed to The Blade, Toledo, O., "O. W. C."

GIVE THANKS.

Praise God for wheat, so white and sweet, of which to make our bread!
Praise God for yellow corn, with which His waiting world is fed!
Praise God

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Money Fallacies.

E. F. A., Simpson, Minn., writes: "You have asked correspondents where the grout came in, to any one forcing a bill to demonetize silver by means of bribes through Congress. Here is my idea:

"All the money there is will buy all there is. Halving the money halves prices. Incomes, salaries and fixed charges are the same as ever, and interest on bonds, etc., are nearly as high as 1873. Hence the persons alleged to have secured demonetization have doubled, or nearly doubled their incomes. While the income is the same in amount, it will buy nearly double the amount of property. Then what myself and other unfortunates have to sell, we sell at half price, and pay just as high taxes and interest as ever, seemingly; in reality, we thus pay double, hence we kick."

Your argument is fallacious. Halving all the money would not halve prices, nor would doubling it double prices. This, however, we can not discuss because of lack of space, and because it is not necessary in order to disprove your position.

Interest rates are not "nearly as high as in 1873." At that time railway securities—which represent the largest class of securities—bore 7 to 10 per cent interest. Now they bear but 4 or 5. Government bonds then bore 6 per cent. Now they are eagerly taken at 3 per cent. The rate of discount in the great financial centers is only about half what it was then. Hence "the persons" you refer to have not "doubled their incomes."

Second, there has been no "halving the money" since 1873. The per capita circulation in 1873 was $17.70; in 1894, $24.03. These figures are official. How, then, can you assume the money has been halved, when its volume, in proportion to the total population, has been increased a fraction over 36 per cent? In 1873, there was no primary money at all in circulation. We were on a greenback basis. In 1884, we had $351,000,000 in gold, and $347,000,000 of full legal tender silver.

Third, the fall in prices, which began in 1865, not 1873, has not affected all articles equally. Some products are as high as they were in 1873, others lower. The wages of labor are higher. If there were any reality in the cause you assign, all would share equally in the fall of prices.

Try to look at the facts, not at the theories of sincere but mistaken men, and you will see the fallacy of the position you assume.

The President's Qualifications.

R. A. G., Boyd, Ore., writes: "What construction has been placed upon that part of clause 4, sec. 1, art. 2, of our constitution which reads as follows: 'Or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this constitution?'

"In an argument my opponent stated that if that clause had not been inserted, George Washington could not have been eligible, as he was born on British territory, while I stated that it was inserted for the benefit of those of European birth who had been residents prior to the adoption of the constitution; as many who took an active part in the constitutional convention were of foreign birth."

The clause referred to means this: That the President of the United States must be native born. The exception was made in favor of the generation then living, that citizens at the time of the adoption of the constitution might also be eligible. Every person born in the colonies was a citizen of the United States, and your opponent is entirely wrong in supposing that, without that clause, Washington would not have been eligible. He was born in the colonies, and hence was not a foreigner.

The Conception of Infinity.

A. L. D., Douds, Iowa, writes: "Is there anything the human mind can think about that is as incomprehensible as 'space' (meaning the universe), and how do those who claim they do not believe in an Infinite Being explain the mystery?"

Regarding the first part of your query, you must remember the human mind is limited in scope. We are living under certain conditions of space and time, and anything not so conditioned is unknowable in its entirety, and hence incomprehensible to us. We can not understand endless space any more than we can understand endless time—eternity. We are not sure we understand what you mean by the second half of your question. The idea of infinity is not fully cognizable by the human mind. We can give it a name, but we can not comprehend it. Hence an infinite being is incomprehensible to us under our present limitations. Some people—probably the class to whom you refer—realize the impossibility of comprehension, and are guilty of the folly of saying that because they can't comprehend the idea of an infinite being, hence he does not exist. That is simply ignorance, and inability to reason logically.

The District of Columbia.

J. E. A., Verndale, Minn., submits the following: "At a post meeting a comrade said that the city of Washington elected its officers, and the District of Columbia elected and was entitled to a delegate in Congress. I said there are no elections in Washington City, and the District of Columbia has no delegate in Congress; that Congress passes all laws for the district, and that all officers are appointed. Am I right, or is the comrade?"

You are correct. The national government has supreme and exclusive control over the district, and Congress passes all laws required. The officers are appointed, and the people have no vote. In 1871, Congress by law established a regular government for the district, with a number of officers elected by the people of the district; but this government became so extravagant that Congress repealed the law, and resumed direct control.

Residents of the district, not being citizens of any state, have no vote for Representatives in Congress, nor for Presidential electors; nor has it any delegate in Congress.

Exchanging Gold for Currency.

C. S. N., Holgate, O., writes: "In sending gold to the United States treasury in exchange for greenbacks under the present call, who will have to stand the loss, if any, from abrasion, which is estimate at 4 cents per grain? Will the treasury lose it or the party sending it? It does not seem just that the last owner of a worn coin which has circulated for perhaps 30 years should lose it. We think the government, which is the whole people should. If it does not, I think the people will be slow in sending it."

The coinage laws of the United States provide a "limit of tolerance" for coins. That of gold coin is half a grain for the double eagle and eagle, and one-fourth of a grain for the half eagle, quarter eagle and $3 piece. That is to say, these pieces shall pass for the face value, unless they have lost more than that. If they are lighter, they are to be weighed and pass for the value of the bullion.

We presume this will be the practice with gold sent to the treasury in exchange for currency. It is very rare to find a gold coin below the limit of tolerance in weight.

Perspiring Feet.

N. Z., Cambridge, O., asks: "Please give recipe to prevent feet from sweating."

Go to a drug store and buy two ounce of borgoic acid (a white powder). Dissolve it in a half pint of water.

On retiring each night, bathe your feet in hot water—not merely warm, but as can be borne—wipe quickly, and apply the solution of borgoic acid freely. The hot water opens the pores widely; the acid thus enters them, and sets up a curative process. Repeat every night, until the evil is remedied.

The Slavery Question.

J. N., Panaca, Nev., asks: "Did the government of the United States, at any time previous to the civil war, offer to buy the slaves from their owners, in the Northern and Southern states, or recommense them in any way, form or manner, for the same?"

No, certainly not. The Southern people did not want to get rid of their slaves. They believed in slavery, and wanted to extend it to the territories of the United States; and it was this effort and its extension which brought on the war.

Frog Raising.

C. A. C., Nevada City, Cal., writes: "Wishing to learn the modus operandi of frog-raising for market, I write you, hoping you will give the desired information."

Our knowledge is too indefinite to be of value. We publish the query, in the hope that some Blade reader will kindly furnish the information asked for, which will be promptly published in the Farmstead column.

Salisbury and Protection.

C. F. E., Ann Arbor, Mich., asks: "Did Lord Salisbury deliver an address recently in which he advocated protection as the true policy for England? If so please give an abstract of what he said."

No. On the contrary he expressed the opposite sentiment in reply to the agitation among English farmers for certain protective duties.

Cleveland and Alaskan.

W. H. P., Carpentersville, Ill., writes: "What do you think of Grover Cleveland's policy in the Alaskan boundary trouble? I mean, his hesitating to do anything to stop the Canadians from occupying the American strip of country."

We hold, most emphatically, to the view that he should prevent any occupation of any territory claimed by the United States, by the Canadians or anybody else.

Miscellaneous.

L., Waterville, O.: If you are desirous of enlisting in the United States navy address a letter of inquiry to "Chief of Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, Navy Department, Washington, D. C."

J. M. S., Piney, Tenn.: The only satisfactory way of removing superfluous hair is by the electric needle, in the hands of a competent physician.

J. E. D., Eminence, Ind.: Your question is not plain. What are the things you want to know about those universities? Make this plain, and we will try to answer.

C., Prescott, Ark.: We do not know whether the Comanche reservation has been surveyed or not. Apply to the nearest U. S. land office.

F. C., Stewart, O.: It is impossible for us to find an article in our files unless we know the date of the paper, or within a few weeks of it. We do not recall the article. If you can ascertain the date, we will be glad to help you.

A. N., Rexford, Kan., asks for "a cheap method of tanning a cow hide so as to make leather suitable for harness." We know of no way cheaper than the ordinary one. Can any reader enlighten us on a cheaper one?

C. A. B., West Franklin, Pa., asks for a recipe "for coloring wool on a sheep skin, suitable for rug for buggy." Who will furnish a good one for publication?

J. H., Stork, Kan., asks how "to temper the main spring of a gunlock." Will some one send a full formula?

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

GOING FOR AHLWARDT.

A Few Hot Words for Germany's Anti-Semitic.

New York, Dec. 9.—At a meeting yesterday lodge 38, of the Independent Order Free Sons of Israel, Julius Harburger, the grand master of the order, made an address in which he referred to the visit of Herr Ahlwardt, the German anti-Semitic agitator, to this country. He said among other things: "When the A. P. A. question was mooted in this country and the revivification of know-nothingism became rampant, the true American men of the people asserted itself, and press, pulpit and orators molded public opinion and relegated these pernicious doctrines to oblivion. Wherever and whenever individuals have attempted to array religion against religion in America it fanned in a most ignominious manner. The visit of Dr. Ahlwardt to our hospitable shores to engender and inculcate anti-Semitic doctrines will fall at the outset. This fanatic, bigot and alien, imbued with hatred for the Israelite from his childhood, sets up a gospel of his own to preach on American soil which is in contradistinction to the fundamental principles of our great, free and most liberal government. The Jewish people need no defenders on American soil. Their alms and objects since the revolutionary days, as loyal and patriotic American citizens have been testified to by Washington and by all the statesmen of the various generations in the land. Any individual who does not respect the religion of either creeds and who is vituperative in his language towards a people who have been persecuted for centuries, maligned and driven from country to country until they have found a home in the greatest republic on earth, is as cowardly a wretch as was ever born and should be incarcerated in an asylum for lunatics."

JUDGE THURMAN'S DAUGHTER.

After a Varied Career Seems to Have Struck Gold.

Chicago, Dec. 9.—A special from Los Angeles, Cal., says: News comes from the Colorado desert mining camp of Picacho, near Yuma, that Mary Thurman, daughter of Judge Thurman, has made the richest strike known in any of the desert camps for years. She was prospecting in the hills and found a vein that promises to make her a bonanza queen. Mary Thurman was once the belle of Washington and there she married Lieut. Cowles, now United States naval attache in London, who recently wedded Miss Roosevelt, sister of the secretary of the United States embassy. Cowles and she soon disagreed and he petitioned her to get a divorce. Then she came west to San Diego and lived at Tia Juan, on the Mexican line. There she met and married Thomas Gifford, a dashing adventurer, who proved to have a wife and two little children. Then she went home to see her mother before the old lady died, but Judge Thurman refused to permit her to enter her door, and she returned. She got a divorce from Gifford and then surprised her friends by marrying "Bug" Holliday, the base ball player. She is known in all the mining camps of Southern California.

COL. INGERSOLL WILL WAIT.

Thus Far He is Not Visibly Disturbed by the Prayers.

Minneapolis, Dec. 4.—Col. Robert G. Ingersoll lectured last evening at Ottumwa, Ia. The colonel was interviewed on the 3,000 prayers offered for him on Thanksgiving day. He is not visibly disturbed by the prayers which the Christian Endeavorers of the nation are causing to be made for his salvation. When asked if he believed in the efficacy of these petitions, he said:

"Oh, we will have to wait and see what will be done. I suppose that God is busy yet with the people's prayers of Thanksgiving of last week and has not got around to that yet. We will have to wait and see what will be done. If these prayers are effective, then the Endeavorers ought to go after Grover Cleveland. His message reads like he needed it."

STILL AFTER INGERSOLL.

The Salvation Army of Cleveland Sends Many Letters.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 9.—A large number of letters were mailed to Colonel Robert Ingersoll from this city Saturday, appealing to the great agnostic to forsake his belief and to lend his influence to the cause of religion. These letters were written by members of the Salvation Army of Cleveland in accordance with action taken on Thanksgiving day by the soldiers, in which they determined that the only way Ingersoll could be saved would be by prayers to the Throne of Grace and by written appeals.

POLITICS PAY IN CHICAGO.

Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars Stolen.

Chicago, Dec. 4.—Three-quarters of a million dollars has been stolen from the campaign fund of the Democratic party raised for the years 1893, 1894, and the spring of 1895. This charge is made by M. C. McDonald and Alderman John Powers. It is sustained by the newly elected chairman of the county central committee, Thomas Gahan, in the statement that the funds of the past two years have not been accounted for.

The Democratic administration of the central committee born out of the assassination of Carter Harrison, is charged with misuse of this money. And, for this misuse no explanation is at present forthcoming from the Democratic citizens who stand under the charge of having taken the money for their own personal benefit, involving in its expenditure trips to Europe, to Wiesbaden and to Hot Springs, and the building of various expenses residences in different parts of the city.

Fight Was on A. P. A.'s.

Boston, Dec. 4.—New city governments were chosen in nineteen of the thirty-one cities of the commonwealth yesterday. In many places party lines were not drawn, and in Springfield, Somerville, Gloucester, Brocton and other cities the battle was fought on the A. P. A. issue. The contest in Springfield was one of the warmest in the history of that city and resulted in the overthrow of candidates endorsed by the A. P. A.

EXPLOSION OF NITRO-GLYCERINE.

The Shock Distinctly Felt Throughout This Section of the State.

Bowling Green, O., Dec. 7.—The explosion of 540 quarts of nitro-glycerine in the magazine of the Ohio and Indiana Torpedo Co., two miles and a half southwest of here, at 10:15 last night, brought nearly all the residents of Bowling Green out of their houses to discover the cause. Many believed it was another earthquake shock and many were so badly frightened they did not know what to believe. Buildings were shaken, pictures slammed against the walls and window glass was broken. Twenty plate glass fronts on the east side of South Main street are broken, while on the west side they remain intact. This would naturally occur, as the magazine was located to the west of the town. There is little damage here aside from the breaking of windows. The shock was terrific, however, and it is strange more damage was not done.

The cause of the explosion is at this time a mystery. The magazine was located at least one-half mile from any house; in fact, it is doubtful if it could have been located at any other spot in the county and been so far removed from any habitations. There was no light and no fire about the magazine. It is heated by steam from another building. Superintendent Smith can give no cause for the explosion unless it was the work of some tramp, and if so the tramp is now out of sight and hearing. The Bradford Co. has a magazine located 100 yards from the one which exploded, but this was not disturbed.

The scene of the explosion is well worth a visit. An immense hole was torn in the ground thirty feet in diameter and quite deep. It is fortunate that the magazine was located in such an out-of-the-way place. Reports from all surrounding towns show that the shock was felt throughout Northwestern Ohio.

CUBAN FINANCES.

Syndicate Will Loan Rebels Fifteen Million Dollars.

New York, Dec. 9.—A syndicate of American capitalists has been formed in this city to aid the Cuban insurgints. The Marquis De Santa Lucia, president of the provisional republic, a representative of the syndicate, has made a proposition to loan the republic $15,000,000 contingent on the recognition of belligerency by the United States government. In exchange, the syndicate will accept $45,000,000 in Cuban bonds, the same to be cancelled from customs receipts immediately on the recognition by Spain of the Cuban republic, or a declaration of peace. The syndicate stipulates that $10,000,000 be expended in the purchase of two modern warships and munitions of war, that these vessels shall immediately proceed to capture and hold in conjunction with land forces some Cuban port to be hereafter agreed upon, and that they will, with the assistance of other men-of-war, whose purchase later may be deemed advisable, shall prey on Spanish commerce and assume an aggressive policy which shall bring this war to an early end.

Cuban Expedition Abandoned.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 9.—The long prepared Cuban expedition of Gen. Enriquez Collazo has temporarily disbanded. It was composed of 116 men and was to have carried to Cuba 400 Remington carbines, 400,000 rounds of ammunition, one two-pound rapid fire Hotchkiss gun, with 1,000 rounds of ammunition, many machettes, dynamite and other powerful and secret explosives.

A BIG CELEBRATION.

Centennial of Commercial Liberty in America.

New York, Dec. 7.—The arrangements are very nearly complete for the "American commerce banquet," to be held at Delmonico's on the evening of "Commercial day," December 19, to commemorate the close of the first century of commercial liberty in America, as secured by the treaty negotiated with England by John Jay, of New York.

The chairman of the committee of arrangements, Mr. S. W. Fairchild, announced to-day the following names as the speakers at the banquet: Senator William P. Frye, on "Our Merchant Marine;" Hon. Don M. Dickinson, on "American Commerce;" Gen. Charles H. Taylor, on "The American Press," and Gen. Horace Porter, on "The American Business Man." The aim is to have no important American industry, and no section of the country without one or more representatives at this centennial celebration; and the acceptances thus far received give every assurance of success in this direction. The celebration will be distinctively commercial. Probably the gathering at Delmonico's that evening will represent through the 300 or 400 individual components of it, a greater variety of American industry and manufactures and a larger measure of the nation's commercial magnitude and wealth than any smaller assembly in this country. The reception committee consists of some of the most prominent citizens of New York. Dr. Chauncey M. Depew is chairman of this committee.

OKLAHOMA WANTS STATEHOOD.

Large and Representative Convention Sends Word to Congress.

Oklahoma, O. T., Dec. 6.—One of the largest and most representative conventions ever held in the territory in favor of statehood, has just adjourned after adopting the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the people of Oklahoma Territory, without distinction of party, earnestly urge upon the Congress of the United States at its present session to pass an enabling act providing for the admission of Oklahoma as a state, with such boundaries as in the wisdom of Congress will best subserve the cause of good government."

Arrangements were made to send a committee to Washington to push the claims for statehood.

UTAH'S OFFICIAL VOTE.

Showing Clear Majorities for the Republicans.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 5.—The commission yesterday completed its canvass of the vote on the state constitution, and the certified copy will reach President Cleveland about the middle of next week. The entire vote was 41,602; for the constitution, 31,305; against it, 7,687; not voting on the constitution, 2,670.

Wells (Rep.), for governor, received 30,833 votes, and Caine (Dem.), 18,519. Allen (Rep.), for Congress, received 30,568 votes, and Roberts (Dem.), 19,666. The three Republican candidates for supreme court judges received majorities of over 2,000. The legislature will stand 42 Republicans and 21 Democrats.

SMALLEST MAN LIVING.

Forty-Four Years Old and Only Two and a-Half Feet High.

Napoleon, Ohio, December 6.—Albert Reiter, a son of the late Commissioner Reuben Reiter, of this place, has contracted to travel with the Viking Bicycle company, of Toledo. He is really a monstrosity, and, without a doubt, the smallest grown person living, and has before now refused several good offers from show men. He stands but two and one-half feet high, weighs about 40 pounds, and is 44 years of age.

Mr. Riter at one time had considerable wealth which he had received from his father's estate, but through misfortune lost it, consequently he found his way to the county poor house where he was seen by Mr. Edward Eger, of Wauseon, and the manager of the Viking bicycle, who took him to Toledo yesterday.

A Significant Departure.

With the departure of another year when a review is made of the condition of affairs, it is only right that some thought be given to the physical body which enables every one to battle with life's problem and figure for themselves the profit or loss on the trial balance sheet. Though the bank account may be large and each one's material gain be great, it would not be surprising if it suddenly dawns upon many that good health has been greatly impoverished by the low condition of the blood. It is in this state that the lactated acid in the vital fluid attacks the fibrous tissues, particularly the joints, making known the local manifestations of rheumatism. Thousands of people have found in Hood's Sarsaparilla the great blood purifier, a positive and permanent cure for rheumatism.

ALLISON'S BOOM.

He Enters the Field in Response to a Call From Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 4.—Senator William B. Allison is a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. His campaign was formally started by the Republican state central committee [illegible]. Many designing politicians and many without ulterior motives have been trying for a year or more to make Mr. Allison consent to be a candidate and to give over the management of his campaign to them, or some of them. But he has held them all off, and this is the first authorized announcement of his candidacy. Pressure has been brought to bear from all parts of this and other states to bring Mr. Allison into the field, and it is in response to this unanimous call that the Republican state central committee took the matter up of its own accord and made the official announcement as coming from the regular party organization, representing all the Republicans of the state, rather than the personal promoters of Senator Allison's candidacy.

The Iowa man is thus consistent in keeping his personality out of the enterprise to a large extent and making it rather a state interest. No man ever had quite the following in Iowa that Allison now has. He has overcome all the opposition he ever had in his own state to such a degree that everything in the next session of the legislature will be subordinate to his interest. In the discussion of matters that are likely to come up then one of the first inquiries heard is "How will this affect Allison."

WILL WAGE WAR ON HEBREWS.

Mission of Herr Ahlwardt, He Says, is to Expose Them.

New York, Dec. 6.—Herr Ahlwardt, the famous anti-Semetic of Berlin, arrived here yesterday on the Champagne. He was born December 21, 1846, and has been a member of the Reichstag for four years.

Herr Ahlwardt says he came over on the solicitation of some New York and Milwaukee men, and expects to give five lectures in New York. It is said that Herr Ahlwardt's mission to Milwaukee is to start a campaign against the Hebrews, his doctrines being that they are encroaching upon the wealth of the world, and are a menace to the prosperity of other races of the earth. He does not believe they should hold office, enjoy the rights of citizenship, or have any share in public affairs.

In an interview Dr. Ahlwardt said: "I have come to America for the purpose of exposing the methods of the Jews, and anti-Semetic clubs in New York invited me to deliver a series of lectures here.

"I am at the head of the anti-Semetic movement abroad, and am the leader of the anti-Semetic faction in the Reichstag.

CONGRESS OF LABOR LEADERS.

Fifteenth Annual Convention American Federation of Labor.

New York, Dec. 9.—The largest Congress of labor leaders ever held in New York as far as the numbers represented and the interests involved are concerned began to-day at Madison Square Garden, with the opening of the fifteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor. More than 500,000 organized workingmen in the United States are sending their delegates—152 in number—to represent them. Perhaps a million workingmen would be nearer the mark, but the officers of the federation are conservative as to numbers, and reckon only those who are in good standing with the subordinate unions.

It is now 12 years since the federation met in this city in convention, since which time it has been expanding, until it has its representatives in every state in the Union and all over Canada. It has affiliated with it 80 national organizations.

THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

Seal Agent Says It Allows Extermination of Seals.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 7.—U. K. Nice, agent at Dutch Harbor, Unalaski, for the American Commercial company, which holds concessions from the U. S. government for killing seals on the islands of Bering Sea, is in the city. He left Dutch Harbor after the close of the sealing season, and is outspoken in his denunciation of the present international agreement, which he says privileges the wanton slaughter of seals and means their extermination if some changes are not made in the near future. Fully 30,000 seals starved to death during the past season, according to Mr. Nice on the islands of St. George and St. Paul, in Bering sea, through the wilful slaughter of their mothers in the open sea by the roving seal crews.

MANY WOULD SUCCEED HIM.

Keen Competition for Senator Blackburn's Place.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 9.—Now that the legislature is made a tie politically by the Democrats re-electing A. J. Carroll at Louisville, the aspirants for the Senatorship to succeed Senator Blackburn are here with their managers and a very hotly contested fight is on. Governor-elect Bradley arrived to-day by special train from his home at Lancaster. After his inauguration on Tuesday, it is stated that he will be an important factor in the Senatorial contest that is pending before the legislature, and it is generally conceded that the governor-elect favors Congressman Hunter, who managed the recent successful campaign in the state for the Republicans.

DRAWN BY DOGS.

Mail Will be Carried on a Sledge to Miners.

Port Townsend, Wash., Dec. 9.—James Jackson, an educated Indian, who is to personally carry the mails from Juneau to Fort Cudahy on the Yukon river, has arrived on the steamer Willapa. He came down to secure twenty or thirty strong dogs to pull the sleds across the mountains to the Canadian postoffice on Forty Mile creek. This service is merely a private enterprise, being maintained by miners, who pay fifty cents for each letter. The Canadian government guarantees $350 for each of two round trips. This is reckoned as being a most hazardous journey. Several miners in the past years have lost their lives in trying to make it.

LEAVES MILLIONS FOR A UNIFORM

Grandson of a Millionaire Enlists as a Private.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Charles W. Deering, the 18-year-old grandson of the millionaire plow manufacturer, William Deering, has joined the regular army as a private. The young man failed to get into West Point, and without the knowledge of his relatives decided to enlist. He was mustered in as a cavalryman at Detroit, and is now a trooper at Fort Riley, Kan. His family appear to have concluded not to attempt to interfere with his prospective five-year term of service.

MINERS MAY STRIKE

Because the Operators Refused to Concede Anything.

Massillon, O., Dec. 9.—The coal operators of the state having absolutey refused to concede anything to the miners employed in the company store mines, there remains every prospect of a state strike. The cash operators are hopeful that when it is ordered they will be exempted from its operations, and they think that a policy of this sort would bring the company store operators around more quickly than any other.

Chicago a Great Horse Market.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Col. James M. Moore, assistant quartermaster, has been ordered from New York, and Capt. James B. Aleshire, assistant quartermaster, from St. Louis, to go to Chicago to purchase cavalry horses for the army. Chicago now being recognized as the great horse market of the country.

A Spurious "Uncle Tom."

Chicago, Dec. 5.—Harriet Beecher Stowe has written a letter, declaring George Lewis Clark, of Lexington, not the original of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and that "Harris" was a creature of her own imagination.

GOLDEN CRIPPLE CREEK

Will Produce $500,000,000 in Seventeen Years.

Denver, Col., Dec. 7.—Ex-Governor James F. Grant, of the Omaha & Grant Smelter, who has just returned from a tour of inspection among the mining camps of Colorado, says that all are prospering. "I am compelled to believe that the future of Cripple Creek," he said, "far surpasses the wildest anticipations of those who had the greatest hopes for the future of Leadville. Cripple Creek will produce more gold in the next 20 years than any camp ever known. Leadville has produced over $100,000,000 in the last seventeen years. When they have been mining seventeen years at Cripple Creek it is safe to say that the camp will have produced over $500,000,000. There seems to be a general impression that values at Cripple Creek are confined to small seams of porphyry. The fact is that in a great many cases there are great ledges just as well defined as any lodes in the San Juan country. As to Leadville, I look for a constantly increasing supply of ore from there."

APACHES LOOKING FOR BLOOD.

Bodies of Four Murdered Men Found in Gila Valley.

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 7.—Latest reports from the vicinity of the San Carlos agency, Ariz., indicate that the outbreak of the Apaches is if more importance than was at first supposed. The bodies of four white men were found in the lower Gila valley, near the reservation line close to Fort Thomas, which was recently abandoned by the United States troops. This is 45 miles from Ash Springs, where the Merrills were killed, so it must havve been done by a different party of Indians, and undoubtedly by a larger band. Settlers in that section are under arms, and the troops from Forts Bayard, Gant and Huachuaca are scouring the country.

HEAPED COALS OF FIRE.

Wealthy Boston Banker Sent His Eloping Wife $100,000.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 7.—Francis L. Higginson, the banker, yesterday sent to his wife, at Genoa, Italy, a cable money order for $100,000. He accompanied this extraordinary gift with the words, "Poor things, they'll starve if I don't send them some money."

The "poor things" to whom he referred are his eloping wife and her lover, James Wheatland Smith, a wealthy young Boston society man. The Higginson family is one of the first in all New England. Mr. Higginson retired three years ago from the banking firm of Lee, Higginson & Co. with a very large fortune.

VISIBLE TO THE UNCLOTHED EYE.

Perrin's Comet Commencing to Loom and Grows Bright.

Mount Hamilton, Cal., Dec. 9.—The Perrins comet was again observed here this morning at the Lick observatory, after an interval of several days of cloudy weather. The comet has grown much brighter and is now plainly visible to the naked eye. It is a hazy object of about the fourth magnitude, and now rises about five hours 15 minutes in the morning a little south of east.

Kirk Soap Factory Burned.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Early this morning fire was discovered in James S. Kirk & Co.'s soap factory, 352 North Water street. Nearly 200 men were at work in the place at the time and they were compelled to flee to save their lives. Many reached the ground by way of the fire escapes. The loss will amount to between $60,000 and $75,000.

FOREIGN.

A HOLY WAR FEARED.

Why the Sultan Dare Not Let Gunboats Pass.

London, Dec. 9.—There is no doubt that the sultan originally authorized his minister of war to promise Sir Philip Currie that the guardship firmans would be issued a week ago. The world is as much interested in knowing why he refused as in the fact itself. Abdul Hamid based his withdrawal fairly upon his fear of a Mohammedan uprising in Constantinople if the additional gunboats appeared from the west through the straits of Dardanelles, to be followed by others from the north through the Bosphorus. The sultan insisted that the appearance of the vessels would not only be a blow at his imperial prestige, but would be interpreted by almost the whole Moslem world as an insult to him in his capacity as caliph. These representations he has made to Nicholas, Victoria, Wilhelm, Humbert and Franz-Josef, and the effect upon the minds of those rulers is not likely to have been inconsiderable. The contingency predicted by the sultan might arise. If it did, the results would be awful to contemplate. Nothing more dreadful could happen to Christian humanity in the remote east than the outbreak of a "holy" war, a war in which the followers of Mahomet should draw the sword of extermination against not only every Christian missionary, but every citizen of a Christian state wherever found.

When it is borne in mind that the followers of Mahomet number at the lowest calculation 200,000,000, some idea may be gained of what a general religious outbreak against Christianity among them would mean. There are 5,000,000 in Egypt, vast numbers in the colonies of Southeastern Austria, at least 40,000,000 in India and 20,000,000 more in other British colonies. The Arabian Mohammedans regard Abdul Hamid as a usurper, on the ground that he is not an Arab and that a caliph should be an Arab. But they would not fail to respond to his declaration of a "holy" war in defense of the faith embodied in the koran. Just now the Chinese Mohammedans are in rebellion against the Manchus, and it would not need much additional encouragement to induce them to make way with the Christian traders and missionaries and to attack the Christians of the Greek church on the borders of the southwestern provinces of the Chinese empire. The sultan is the recognized head of the whole Moslem world, save Persia and Morocco, where the head of the faithful is Ali, son-in-law of Mohammed.

There is only one way of proclaiming a holy war. There is only one man who can proclaim it. The sultan is that man. In his person devout Mohammedans see the successor of the Arabian prophet just as Roman Catholics see in Pope Leo the successor of Christ. The green mantle of Mohammed is kept to this day, according to Moslem teachings, in one of the mosques at Constantinople. If this is taken out of its receptacle by the sultan in his capacity as caliph and held aloft by him toward Mecca, while the formal words declaring war against a foe are uttered, according to strict Moslem ritual, every Mohammedan in Asia or Europe must respond as he hopes to attain paradise.

The Grand Turk fully realizes what that step would mean. Whether he grasps its remote consequences is not so clear. To begin with, there would be outbreaks in the southern Russian provinces and those of east Austria. The Algerian and Tunisians are violent Mohammedans and would make trouble for the French in those two African states. England would be confronted with uprisings in Egypt and India. All Turkey would be in an uproar at once. The fate of Christian missionaries to the southwest and southeast of the sea of Marmora would be sealed. Bloodshed would follow in all quarters of the East.

Great Britain would suffer immediately from an enormous shrinkage in the value of the Turkish bonds, most of which are held in London. Germany's commercial relations with Turkey would be seriously prejudiced if not permanently injured. The Turks are magnificent fighters at any time. Their constitution seems to endure fatigue and hardship quite as well as the hardiest Teuton veteran. In a holy war natural valor would be supplanted by fanaticism, and the sultan's forces would be a formidable army.

Of course the powers would win in the end. The struggle would not be a long one, so far as Abdul Hamid is concerned. His declaration of a holy war would mean his own deposition; but, in the meantime, one of the bloodiest wars of history, and afterward the revival of the rivalries of the powers in sharper form than ever.

EVADED SULTAN'S TRAP.

Said Pasha Declined an Invitation to be Killed.

Constantinople, Dec. 5, via Sofia, Bulgaria, Dec. 6.—The feature of the political situation here to-day is the step taken by Said Pasha, president of the council of state and formerly grand vizier, in seeking refuge to-day, accompanied by his son, a lad aged about twelve years, in the British embassy.

An investigation of the affairs shows that the sultan yesterday sent a special messenger to Said Pasha, inviting him to occupy the Chalet, within the grounds of the Yeddiz park. Fully aware of the significance of this invitation, Said Pasha declined. This is said to have made Abdul Hamid take steps to arrest the former grand vizier, who is suspected by the palace people of intriguing for the deposition of the present sultan in favor of ex-Sultan Murad, now a prisoner in the Yeddiz Kiosk, and who was declared by the council of ministers in 1876 to be suffering from idiocy.

Abdul Hamid, it seems, believed that Said Pasha was trying to influence the council of the state to declare him (the sultan) suffering from weakness of mind. This so enraged Abdul Hamid that he determined to get Said Pasha out of the way. It may not have been in the plan to actually murder the latter, but nobody doubts that if he had been enticed into the Yeddiz Chalet, he would at least have remained there a close prisoner for a long time to come, and some morning the news of his "suicide" would possibly have been circulated.

RUSSSIAN SQUADRON READY

To Swoop Down on British Fleet if It Becomes Aggressive.

Berlin, Dec. 5.—The Cologne Gazette to-day announces that a Russian squadron of seven battle ships and nine torpedo boats is anchored off Sebastopol under orders to hold itself in readiness to sail at 24 hours' notice. It is added that the orders for assembling this squadron were issued a month ago when Russia assumed that Great Britain might attempt to send war vessels through the Dardanelles without the consent of the Sultan of Turkey.

GREAT BRITAIN'S ANSWER.

Essence of Salisbury's Reply on the Venezuela Question.

London, Dec. 4.—The reply of the Marquis of Salisbury to the note of Secretary Olney on the Venezuelan question, the Associated Press learns, is on board the White Star line steamship Britannic, due at New York on Friday next.

The essence of the document is that Great Britain refuses to submit to arbitration any of the territory within the Schomburgk line. Some surprise is expressed at the fact that the reply is not sent through the United States embassy, but the United States ambassador, Mr. Thomas F. Bayard, explains that this is in accord with diplomatic usage.

FEVER DESTROYING SPANIARDS.

Prove More Destructive Than Cuban Bullets.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4.—According to the crew of the Norwegian steamship Morengen, which arrived to-day from Baracoa, Cuba, the fever ravages are killing off the Spanish soldiers in that locality at a lively rate. The soldiers stationed around Baracoa, not long since arrived from Spain, and, not having become acclimated, are suffering terribly and dying like sheep.

The Moringen is the first vessel which has come direct from Baracoa for some time.

MUST DIE FOR FIGHTING SPAIN.

Gil Gonzales Sentenced to be Shot.

Havana, Dec. 4.—Gil Gonzales, the insurgent leader, after having been tried by court martial and convicted of taking up arms against the government, was to-day sentenced to be shot.

INGENIOUS PLOT FAILED.

Which Aimed at the Capture of the City of Canton.

Boston, Dec. 6.—Mail advices received by reliable persons in this city from Canton, China, give details of an attempt to capture the city of Canton by a secret organization for the purpose of establishing an independent government.

The writer says:

"The plot ripened October 27, when the attention of the United States consul was called to a suspicious telegram from a Hong Kong firm to its branch in Canton concerning the shipment of certain packages. The authorities were notified and the packages, which proved to be five barrels of pistols and ammunition, labeled "cement," were seized on their arrival. On the same steamer from Hong Kong came four hundred men who expected to aid in the revolt. The officials, however, captured 75 of them.

ROUTED BY ITALIANS.

Army of King of Abyssinia Put to Flight.

Rome, Dec. 9.—The army of King Menelik, of Abyssinia, consisting of 20,000 men, was surrounded yesterday and surprised by five companies of Italian troops under Major Toselli, at Amba Alagi. General Arimondi, with another body of Italian troops, advanced to the support of Major Toselli, but was stopped by the enemy. A severe battle was subsequently fought. The official dispatches say that the losses of the Abyssinians were heavy, but no news is furnished concerning Major Toselli's command, and nothing is said about the Italian losses.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA DEAD.

Journalist Who Became Famous in America.

London, Dec. 9.—George Augustus Sala, the distinguished journalist, is dead.

George Augustus Henry Sala, journalist and author, was born in London in 1828. In the early part of his career he became a contributor of articles to newspapers and magazines. He founded and was the first editor of the Temple Bar Magazine.

He visited the United States in 1863 as special correspondent for the Daily Telegraph, and in the latter part of the following year published the result of his observations under the title of "America in the Midst of War." He was war correspondent for the same paper in France in 1870, witnessing the fall of the empire in Paris on September 4. He afterwards went to Rome to record the entry of the Italian army into that city, and in January, 1875, he visited Spain on the occasion of the entry of Alphonso XIII. He visited Russia in December, 1876, as special correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, and subsequently traversed the empire to observe the mobilization of the Russian army, then in progress.

A MISSIONARY IMPLICATED.

In a Plot to Seize the King of Korea.

London, Dec. 6.—A special dispatch from Shanghai states that the situation in Korea is one more causing anxiety, and says it is reported that an American missionary is implicated in the plot of Tai Wen Shin to seize the person of the King of Korea.

Premier Denies Statements.

New York, Dec. 9.—A special to the World from

WASHINGTON.

A LIVELY KICK.

Mr. Reed's "Do-Nothing" Suggestion Has Been Noted.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Speaker Reed's suggestion that this Congress should not agitate the tariff question has evidently been noted by "the folks at home," for more than one Congressman has heard from home in the past week in a way that indicates an urgent demnd on the part of the people for protective tariff legislation, and that they will not be satisfied if their desires, as expressed at the elections and repeated now, are left unheeded.

General Grosvenor on Saturday received a most significant letter from an Ohio workingman. It puts the sentiment of the people strongly and tersely. He writes:

"I am one of the 'plain people,' of whom Lincoln spoke. We common people are in favor of a protective tariff built along the lines of protection and we do not like Mr. Reed's idea that Congress should do nothing with the tariff at this time. It is said that the business men and manufacturers have adjusted their affairs to the new tariff, but I want you to know that we working people have not adjusted our affairs to it, because we cannot. If the policy of Mr. Reed is to be followed by the Congress now in session, we, whose interests are chiefly concerned in the matter, might just as well have sent a Democratic majority to Congress. We can do but little to influence the policy of any political party, but we can vote. We voted to send you to Congress, not to do nothing, but to give us relief through a protective tariff which we are entitled to. Let President Cleveland veto a tariff bill passed by Congress if he chooses. Your duty will be done. The responsibility will be his, not yours."

ANGRY AT TOM REED.

The National Wool Growers Have a Grievance.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Members of the National Wool Growers' association who are in Washington were mad last night. They feel that they were turned down yesterday by Speaker Reed, and they do not mince words in expressing their disapproval of his course. Since last Wednesday the association has been in session in this city framing a memorial to be presented to Congress. After a good deal of labor the members got the memorial into the shape, and yesterday morning laid it before Speaker Reed and Representative Danford, of Ohio, to lay before the House.

Just before the House convened Mr. Mr. Danford asked Speaker Reed to recognize him, as he desired to present the memorial, have it printed, and referred to the Ways and Means committee that is to be appointed. Mr. Reed informed Mr. Danford that it would require unanimous consent to have the memorial printed, but promised to recognize him.

Mr. Danford secured recognition, presented the memorial, and asked for the necessary unanimous consent to print. Three times did the speaker inform the House that the gentleman from Ohio had asked unanimous consent to have the memorial printed, making an impressive pause after each announcement. Finally ex-Speaker Crisp rose and objected. Thereupon Mr. Danford withdrew the memorial and returned it to its framers.

The wool men are insisting that Speaker Reed took an unfair advantage of them in strongly hinting that an objection was desirable, and they are making some ugly comment upon his evident attitude toward them.

THE BERING SEA QUESTION.

Senator Morgan Pays His Respects to Sir Julian Pauncefote.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The feature of the Senate yesterday was a speech by Senator Morgan, of Alabama, chairman of the committee on foreign relations and a member of the Pare Bering sea tribunal, upon a resolution offered by him last week. Most of Mr. Morgan's speech yesterday was devoted to paying his respects to Sir Julian Pauncefote.

His resolution, which was as follows, was unanimously adopted at the conclusion of his speech:

"Resolved, That the message of the President received by the Senate on February 13, 1895, and his message read in the Senate December 3 relating to the payment by the United States of the claims of Great Britain arising out of the Bering sea controversy be referred to the committee on foreign relations, with instructions that said committee examine into the question of such liability to Great Britain and the amount thereof, if any, and of any liability on the part of Great Britain, Canada, arising out of said controversy, and that said committee shall have authority to report by bill or otherwise."

QUARTER OF A MILLION

To American University for Teaching Scientific Temperance.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The American university has just completed an agreement with the board of counsel of the temperance educational association by which the latter agrees to secure and transfer to the university $250,000 on condition that there shall be inaugurated, as one of its departments, a college of scientific temperance. This scheme originated with Mrs. Mary H. Hunt, of Boston, the well-known leader in scientific temperance instruction and Vice-Chancellor Boller. It is the purpose that this department, like all others, shall be post graduated, and devoted chiefly to original research.

SENATE AND HOUSE BILLS.

Some Striking Measures Proposed by National Legislators.

Washington, Dec. 10.—A large number of bills were introduced in the Senate again yesterday, the most important of which were:

By Senator Berry, to provide a territorial form of government for Indian territory with the usual staff of territorial officers, the territory to take the name of Indianola.

By Senator Palmer, giving a uniform pension of $30 per month to all who lost a hand or foot in the late war, and of $60 to those who lost an entire limb.

By Senator Allen, to disfranchise any citizen of the United States who shall solicit or accept a title, patent of nobility or degree of honor from a foreign nation and punishing this act as a crime by both fine and imprisonment.

By Senator Voorhees granting pensions to soldiers and sailors who were captured and confined in Confederate prisons during the war.

By Senator Squire, for a gun factory for heavy ordnance on the Pacific coast.

Among the public bills introduced in the House yesterday were the following:

By Mr. Wilson, of Idaho, a bill establishing the duties on wool similar to those in the McKinley law.

By Mr. Bailey, of Texas, prohibiting Senators and Representatives from soliciting or recommending the appointment of any person to any office the appointment of which is vested in the President or the head of any department.

HIGHER DUTIES ON WOOL

Urged by Texas and New Mexico Growers.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The National Association of Wool Growers met behind closed doors to-day in order to adjust privately some differences within the association over the memorial to Congress, which it was decided to draft. The delegates from Texas and New Mexico protested to the association that the McKinley tariff worked a disadvantage to their grade of wool, and urged higher duties on such wools than the McKinley rates.

THE DELAWARE CONTEST.

First Move Was Made in the United States Senate.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The first move in the Delaware contested senatorship was made in the Senate to-day, when Mr. Mitchell, of Oregon, presented a letter and accompanying records to the Senate from H. A. Dupont, claiming the right to be admitted as a senator from Delaware. Delaware's Democratic senator, Mr. Gray, thereupon did the courteous act of moving that the privileges of the floor be given his Republican quasi-colleague pending the determination of his case, and Mr. Dupont was brought in and introduced to the senators.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Speaker Reed is considering a plan to divide the work on contested election cases by forming two election committees in this house. The plan, if adopted, would greatly facilitate the work of disposing of the contests before the house, and would give the contestants, who may be found to be entitled to seats for which others now hold certificates, their rights sooner than they might obtain them otherwise.

The personal appearance of the present house of representatives is above the average. But when so many men are brought together there must be some who are not as handsome as others, and Judge Connolly of Illinois has been credited as sharing with Mr. Eddy of Minnesota and Judge Daniels of New York the distinction of being the homeliest men in the house.

From the interchange of opinion which has been possible, now that the message has been more carefully considered, it seems doubtful whether the President could secure a total of 20 votes for his financial policy, and it is certain that some of his most vigorous opponents will be found in the ranks of his own party. The sentiment in the house in opposition to a further issue of bonds is nearly unanimous.

Mr. Murray, of South Carolina, who was the only colored member of the last Congress, is back as a contestant for his old seat, the certificate to which is held by a Democrat.

General opinion among the house Republicans appears to be that this Congress will be conservative in unseating the 32 members whose seats are contested. The Republican majority is so large that there is no need to strain a point in unseating Democrats, so it is thought not likely to be done.

Many Senators and members of the House were interviewed yesterday by a delegation of Armenian citizens from Worcester and Boston, Mass., who are urging Congress to take every possible step to prevent the continuation of outrages on Armenians in Turkey. A large proportion of the Armenian citizens in the United States live in the neighborhood of Worcester.

Mr. Scoville, of the Scoville Manufacturing Co., of Waterbury, Conn., the contractors for the Columbian World's Fair medal, was at the Treasury department yesterday and announced that all of the 5,000 medals would be completed and ready for delivery by the middle of the present month.

Senator Call presented a bill yesterday requiring the railroad companies to pay employes injured in the discharge of duty their salaries while disabled, and in case of death, to continue to pay the salary to their widows during their natural lives.

The first bill introduced by Mr. McClellan, of New York, who is one of the young Democrats and a son of Gen. McClellan, was one to authorize the senate to confirm military nominations made by President Lincoln, which have never been acted upon.

The President has gone fishing and will not be back for a week, so that the reply of the Marquis of Salisbury to Secretary Olney's definition of the Monroe doctrine will have to wait until he returns before it can receive the attention of the cabinet, as it must be copied at the British legation and certain forms have to be followed. It will probably not reach the state department until the middle of next week, and it will certainly not be given to the public until the President's return.

Very few people believe that England would go to war with the United States under any circumstances, because her capitalists have so much money invested in this country, because this is her best market, and she has no other source of supply for the greater part of her food. Her interests at stake in Venezuela are but a trifle compared with the damage she would suffer in suspending commercial relations with the United States for a single month, and the financial people in London will never permit the Marquis of Salisbury to involve them in hostilities with their debtors on this side of the Atlantic.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The Venezuelan question divides, with the committee appointments, the interest of the house today. A little talk was created by the statement that Mr. Livingston, of Georgia, the only democrat who should not be kept waiting until President Cleveland's return to be informed of the contents of Lord Salisbury's reply, would introduce a resolution calling upon Secretary Olney for the correspondence. As this would be a rather unusual mode of procedure, several influential members, both Republicans and Democrats, suggested to Mr. Livingston that such a resolution might be construed as an act of discourtesy to the President. If Mr. Livingston finds this opinion to be general, he will abandon his intentions.

The senate judiciary committee has reported the nomination of Rufus W. Peckham, of New York, to be associate justice of the supreme court, favorably, which insures his confirmation.

The judiciary committee also agreed to report favorably the nomination of Judges Springer, Kilgore and Stuart.

The house programme this week is a dreary waste. Until the committees are appointed, the machinery of the house is blocked and nothing can be done save by unanimous consent. Any resolution that might be presented—and it is in this form that the sensations that agitate the first few days of a congress usually spring—would go down before a single objection. For this reason no attempt will be made to do anything until Speaker Reed announces his committees, which he now expects to have at the end of the week.

Congress passed a bill to-day. It was to enlarge the customs district of Chicago so as to embrace all the states of Illinois and Indiana.

BILLS IN THE SENATE.

One to Give Mrs. Gresham a Pension of $200 a Month.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Among the bills introduced in the Senate to-day was one by Mr. Voorhees (Dem., Ind.) granting a pension of $200 per month to the widow of the late Secretary of State General W. Q. Gresham.

Mr. Baker (Rep., Kan.) offered a resolution which was agreed to, calling upon the President, if not incompatible with the public interest to transmit to the Senate all documents and correspondence at the state department relating to the case of ex-Consul John L. Waller, now under arrest in France.

THE POPULIST SENATORS

Have Changed Their Former Plan Regarding Organization.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The Populist senators have changed their former decision concerning the organization of the senate, and have now agreed among themselves to interpose no objections to the Republicans taking control. They will act together, but will withdraw as a body and allow the Republicans to elect their candidates for the senate officers. They may possibly nominate a candidate for president pro tempore, but they will not press his claims nor continue his candidacy so as to materially delay organization.

RAIN SPOILED PRESIDENT'S AIM.

Just as He Got Into His "Blind" the Heavens Wept.

Washington, Dec. 10.—A special to the Post from Norfolk, Va., says:

The heavy downpour of rain which set in shortly after the President and his party were settled in their blinds in Cape Hatteras channel prevented their enjoying much sport yesterday.

CHIP ON OUR SHOULDER.

Senator Squire Thinks Our Defenses Should be Strengthened.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Several petitions for the recognition of the Cuban insurgents were offered, and Mr. Squire (Rep., Wash.), in introducing a bill for fortification of Atlantic, Pacific and lake ports, said the Senate was being asked to extend recognition to Cuban belligerents, and to firmly re-assert the Monroe doctrine. "We are talking of these matters as though we had a chip on our shoulders," he added, "and we go along in blissful ignorance or inaction as to the unfortified condition of our ports."

IT HAS ARRIVED.

Secretary Olney Has Received England's Long Expected Reply.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The reply of Lord Salisbury to Secretary Olney's note of instructions to Ambassador Bayard, relative to the Venezuelan boundary dispute was delivered to Secretary Olney at noon to-day. Donelson, the messenger of the British embassy, came early to the state department this morning with a note from Sir Julian Pauncefote, asking for an appointment to see the secretary. This was arranged speedily for this morning, and Sir Julian presented the note in person to the secretary. The ambassador himself read its contents to Mr. Olney, as is the custom when important documents are presented.

For some reason, the state department officials took steps to prevent the fact that the note had been delivered from gaining publicity, but without avail. At the British embassy there was the same indisposition to give any publicity to the proceedings. All inquiry as to the nature of the note failed to secure response from any official source, and it probably will be preserved as an official secret, as far as the Washington authorities are concerned, until the President upon his return has had an opportunity to consider it and send it to Congress, but it is known that it is on the same general lines indicated in the Associated Press dispatches of this week.

The general opinion among those who will have the conduct of foreign affairs in charge in the House is that Lord Salisbury's reply will be a diplomatic evasion of the main issue. In other words, it is believed that Great Britain's reply will temporize with the subject and simply open the way for further correspondence.

"A glance at the correspondence," said a prominent Republican member to-day, "will show that this has been England's position and policy for fifty years. She will seem to yield something, but she will stake off a line beyond which she will not go in the matter of arbitration. That was Lord Granville's policy. It will be Lord Salisbury's.

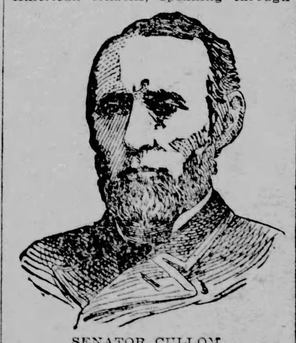
"Though Salisbury is imperious by inclination, he will be exceedingly cautious. The considerations involved in an open breach with England or anything approaching an open breach are gigantic. Credits would be immediately shaken. The question of the tariff is infinitely of more importance to Great Britain than the ownership of a few gold mines in Venezuela. Above all things, depends upon it that England will not by any act of hers aggravate an anti-English feeling in this country or give cause, if the most delicate arts of diplomacy can prevent it, for a war agitation here. England dreads unfavorable tariff legislation. She knows that the first result of a bitter anti-English feeling would be retaliation upon her through a radical revision of the tariff. A tariff inbued by hostility to England growing out of England's encroachments in this hemisphere which had aroused the resentment of the American people would send 2,000,000 Englishmen to bed without their suppers. Such material considerations England never overlooks. The loss of our commerce stopped the war of 1812."

TIME FOR ACTION.

Senator Cullom Speaks on the Monroe Doctrine.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 10.—Senator Cullom, of Illinois, addressed the United States Senate to-day on the subject of the Monroe doctrine.

The Senator's remarks were in support of the doctrine. This government, he declared, is not one of conquest or of usurpation. If we would still keep up the march of the republic in this world of competition and strife and maintain our national honor, with our territorial unity and integrity, we must have some affirmative, distinctive idea of policy of such simple and unquestioned propriety that it shall receive the universal sanction of our people. This much is due to ourselves, continued the Senator, that by no lack on our part can it be truly said that we are too long sleeping upon our just rights. And this, too, is due to Europe, that the governments of the old world may know that 75,000,000 of American citizens, speaking through



SENATOR CULLOM.

their representatives in Congress, are a unit in maintaining the American doctrine of James Monroe; and it is also due to the independent governments of the other America lying to the south of us, whose tenure of existence practically depends upon the honesty of the United States in sustaining the doctrine of the message of 1823.

This nation has played diplomacy long enough, and without much effect. Great Britain has been disregarding polite requests, protests and arguments, and ff let alone will finally dominate Venezuela.

In closing, he declared emphatically that "Our policy is the American policy, our doctrine is the portection of American interests, and our motto is America for Americans."

TO IMPEACH BAYARD.

Two Massachusetts Members Create a Sensation.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Two Massachusetts Republican Congressmen caused sensations soon after the House assembled to-day. Representative McCall offered a resolution calling on the President to report to the House whether he had taken any steps to ascertain if reports of speeches of Ambassador Bayard, delivered in England and Scotland, were true, and if true, what steps if any had been taken to recall or censure said Bayard.

Mr. McCreary (Dem., Ky.) immediately objected, when Mr. McCall's colleague, Mr. Barrett (Rep., Mass.) came forward to a question of privilege, and sending to the clerk's desk had read a resolution for the impeachment of Mr. Bayard. Both resolutions complained of Mr. Bayard's reflection upon American protective system as state socialism and of his references to the United States needing a "real man" like Cleveland to govern "a strong, self-confident and oftentimes violent people." The Barrett resolution declared these utterances were in manifest disregard of the proprieties and calculated to injure our national reputation, and directed the foreign affairs committee to examine the utterances in that speech and to draft and report articles of impeachment to the House.

Crisp, of Georgia, objected to the Barrett resolution as not privileged, but Speaker Reed overruled him and Barrett made a brief speech declaring Bayard sought to aggrandize his party at the expense of his country, and citing the Senates' action in Van Buren's case as justifying his resolution.

ABOUT VENEZUELA.

War is Threatened Between England and America.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—A special dispatch to the Times-Herald from its Washington correspondent says:

War between the United States and Great Britain is threatened. It can be averted only by surrender on the part of England. The contention over the Monroe doctrine has reached a stage which will produce the gravest anxiety on both sides of theAtlantic until the facts become known. If the American Congress will support the President, and of this there is no doubt, Great Britain will soon be given the choice of surrendering or fighting.

Upon authority which cannot be questioned, reads the dispatch, it is known that this government has received a cablegram from Ambassador Bayard giving briefly the contents of the note which the Marquis of Salisbury has mailed in reply to Secretary Olney's dispatch of last July. This reply is in substance a refusal to arbitrate any of the territory eastward of the Schombergk line. Moreover, Lord Salisbury raises a new case. He now contends that the Schomburg line was not arbitrarily run; that it was, in fact, located upon authentic data, and that it can be proved by the records, the treaty descriptions and the maps that it correctly represents the western limits of the territory which Great Britain acquired by cession from Holland.

Receipt of this information caused some excitement in the Washington government. Secretary Olney at once proceeded to confer with the President about it. They agreed in their opinion concerning it, and this opinion was that the British premier was trifling with the merits of the question; that he was attempting to evade and delay direct response to the principal issue involved, and to bring on a controversy between the two governments as to historical records and topographical facts. Such a controversy, the President and secretary agreed, if once entered upon, might run an indefinite length.

The programme which the President and secretary have in mind is to first ascertain the wishes of Venezuela in the premises. If Venezuela is willing to arbitrate on the Schomburg line, then the mission of the United States for a time is at an end.

Venezuela has repeatedly refused this, and it is not expected that she will give in now. Once being assured of Venezuela's unwillingness to submit

GOV. WILLIAM O. BRADLEY, Kentucky, Inaugurated To-day.

First Republican Governor of

to England's proposition, the President will refer the whole matter to Congress at an early day for such action as that body may see fit to take. The correspondence will be accompanied by a message from the President explaining the situation, but probably containing no recommendations. Congress, as the only war-making power, will be left to its own determination, uninfluenced save by facts. When this moment arrives the executive will have exhausted his resources. The futur course of the contention will rest with the national legislature. It is expected, however, that Congress will at once authorize the President to issue an ultimatum that will cause England to back down or fight.

Swiss National Exposition.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The Swiss national exposition which begins at Geneva May 1st next and terminates October 15th, bids fair in the matter of interesting novelties to surpass any national display made since our centennial. A full account of its scope is given by United States Consul Ridgley at Geneva, in a report to the state department, and he says that the Swiss residents in America are invited to make exhibits.

"THEY'RE OFF!"

Howled Hayward, When He Heard Carpenters Building His Scaffold.

Minneapolis, Dec. 10.—John Day Smith, who was associate counsel for Harry Hayward in the trial, forwarded to Governor Clough yesterday a last appeal. The attorney asserts strongly his belief that Hayward is insane, and that it would be a crime to hang him. He asks the governor to stay execution until he can appoint a commission to look into the prisoner's condition. Hayward passed a wild night of it. He is either rapidly becoming insane or is feigning such a condition. About 3 o'clock yesterday he declared that he would write a history of the past ten years of his life, telling everything without reserve. His cousin, Ernest Goodsell, would arrive to-day from Chicago, he said, to take charge of the publication. He would dictate the matter to some one to-morrow. The carpenters are hard at work on the gallows, and the clatter of the hammers easily penetrates to Harry's cell. At the first sound he said to his watch, with that horrid, mirthless laugh of his, "They're off."

WILL CRUSH ABYSSINIANS.

Smarting Under Defeat Italians Will Not Bow to It.

Rome, Dec. 10.—It is officially announced that at the battle of Ambalagi, when Major Toselli's column of five companies of native troops, numbering 1,200 men, commanded by twenty officers and 40 non-commissioned officers, in addition to a mounted battery of artillery, was defeated, the fighting lasted six hours. The troops were surrounded by about 25,000 natives, and when they were overwhelmed by vast numbers they retired. But such was the desperate resistance of the Italians against these great odds that it is estimated that at least 2,000 or 3,000 of the enemy were killed or wounded. The Italian loss is not known; but of the force mentioned Major Toselli, 17 officers and 900 of the native troops are missing.

Gen. Arimondi is said to occupy an impregnable position at Makalle, and to have provisions for three months. It is understood that at the cabinet council held last night it was decided to send reinforcements to the number of 5,000 men to Massowah in order to enable Gen. Baratieri to crush the Abyssinians.

DUNRAVEN COMING BACK

To Resume Inquiry as to Defender's Degree of Emersion.

London, Dec. 7.—The Field announces this morning that Lord Dunraven will sail for New York on next Thursday in order to resume an inquiry as to the degree of emersion of the Defender in the first race for the America's cup in September.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

CURES AND PREVENTS

Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbago, Inflammations,

Rheumatism, Neuralgia

Frostbites, Chilblains, Headache, Toothache, Asthma,

DIFFICULT BREATHING.

CURES THE WORST PAINS in from one to twenty minutes. NOT ONE HOUR after reading this advertisement need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN.

A half to a teaspoonful in half a tumbler of water will in a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick Headache, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Colic, Flatulency and all internal pains.

There is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure Fever and Ague and all other Malarious, Bilious and other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quickly as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty cents per bottle. Sold by druggists

KENTUCKY'S GREAT DAY.

Inauguration of Hon. W. O. Bradley as Governor.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 10.—William O'Connell Bradley at noon to-day was sworn in as governor of Kentucky and the first Republican administration in the history of the commonwealth was ushered in.

Never before was such a crowd seen in Frankfort. There were ten times as many people here by noon as ever before came to witness an inauguration. Cincinnati sent five hundred Republicans. Covington and Newport sent a thousand members of half a dozen clubs. The Garfield club, of Louisville, swelled the delegation from that city to several thousand people. Two special trains of ten coaches each which came from Lexington were packed and many were unable to get aboard.

Col. Bradley, with his wife and daughter, arrived last night on a special train from his home at Lancaster and became the guest of Col. L. P. Tarleton, a leading Republican. All the other state officers-elect were on hand this morning. The public buildings, stores and residences are covered with flags and bunting and the city presents a beautiful appearance.

At 11 o'clock the inaugural procession was started by the firing of salutes on Arsenal Hill. The First Regiment, K. S. G., under command of Col. John B. Castleman, and the Second Regiment, under Col. F. H. Gaither, were in the van. Then came Governor-elect Bradley and Governor Brown in a carriage. Other carriages bearing distinguished visitors followed. Then came organized clubs and delegations from cities on foot. The procession was a lengthy one and comprised four divisions. At noon it reached the state house, where the inaugural stand was located. Fully 20,000 people were gathered there to witness the ceremonies. Mayor Julian presided. Dr. W. C. Taylor offered prayer.

Judge W. H. Holt delivered the address of parting and welcome. Then came the valedictory of the retiring governor, John Young Brown. Governor-elect Bradley followed with an address, as follows:

Gov. Bradley said in part: "The credit and honor of the state and nation are of first importance. The recent popular verdict, which has declared in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money, but at the same time the maintenance of the best and highest standard, so that every dollar shall be of equal value, should be accepted and adhered to; and while public credit should be protected, we should none the less favor a well regulated system of protection to every branch of American industry; such a system as will encourage genius, nourish and increase diversified industries, maintain and enlarge a home market and protect every honest son of toil from the degredation of competition with the pauper labor of the world.

"Together with this should be fostered that reciprocity which will insure free exchange of our products with other nations for commodities which cannot be successfully grown or manufactured in this country. The accomplishment and maintenance of these economic measures will develop our resources, advance our material prosperity and give to Kentucky the position she is entitled to occupy in the sisterhood of state.

"Above all things, the constitution and laws within its spirit must be enforced. Every citizen shall be protected in life, liberty and property at whatever cost. I solemnly appeal to the people in every locality and to the officers of the state for a faithful, energetic and fearless enforcement of the law. Nothing can be more effective in the suppression of crime than the cultivation and expression of a healthy public sentiment, which will hold in just execration every criminal, more especially the murderer and assassin. Mob violence, which has its home in the breasts of cowards, should be prevented at all hazards, and, if committed, should be properly and severely punished. Such action is an open declaration of the want of confidence in the courts, and, instead of promoting, does serious injury to the welfare of the state. The commission of crime to punish crime can find no apologist in Christian civilization.

"I shall do right, as God enables me to see the right; be just, as He enables me to determine what is just, and, by the love that I cherish for the state of my birth, do all that within me lies to advance her prosperity, enforce her laws, protect her citizens and maintain her honor, remembering always that I am not a governor of a party, but of all the people."

The oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Pryor. Standing with his head bared, beneath the American flag, with his right hand uplifted and his left resting on the Bible, Col. Bradley repeated the words which made him the chief executive of the grand old commonwealth.

This evening Governor Bradley and family will be entertained at dinner by ex-Governor Brown, in the executive mansion. To-night will be given a grand inaugural ball in the historic assembly ball room.

Altgeld Pardoned Prisoners.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 7.—Gov. Altgeld has pardoned Donald H. Chapman and Simon McNulty, of Chicago, convicted of election frauds. The governor, in his opinion, strongly censures the alleged practice of Cook county commissioners in selecting partisan juries.

AT ST. LOUIS.

National Republican Convention, on June 16.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The Republican politicians assembled early and in numbers at the Arlington this morning to quit convention wires and incidentally to promote the interests of their several Presidential candidates. There was nearly as much Presidential talk as about which city would win the prize, for beside the convention boomers there were many Congressmen and politicians at large on the ground. Regarding convention cities, there were only four seriously in the field, San Francisco, Chicago, St. Louis and Pittsburg.

Chairman Carter asked the delegates to agree to a half-hour limit for presenting the claims of their cities, and they consented.

George A. Knight and M. H. DeYoung, of California, also presented San Francisco's claims. Samuel Allerton and Mayor Swift did the same for Chicago. St. Louis was urged by Mayor Walbridge, ex-Congressmen Frank and I. S. M. Kennard, and then New York's attractions were set forth by Gen. Daniel Butterfield and Murat Halstead. Then Pittsburg, the last of the big four, had her case urged by Representative Dalzell.

On the fourth ballot it was decided to hold the national convention at St. Louis on June 16, 1896, that city receiving 29 votes to 16 for San Francisco, and 6 for Chicago.

WAR IS DECLARED.

Papers Served on Officers of the American Sugar Refining Co.

New York, Dec. 5.—Recent rumors of an impending legal attack upon the American Sugar Refining company crystallized yesterday when papers were served upon Secretary John R. Searles in a suit to restrain the company from doing business in this state. Rumors were also current that similar proceedings would be taken in Massachusetts. The opinion in the street was that the attacks were inspired by the same motives as those governing the opposition to the consolidation plan of the Chicago Gas companies. The action taken did not affect the price of stock, which closed at a gain of 1 per cent over Tuesday's final figures.

ACTRESS IN A BARREL

Proposes to Shoot the Rapids of Niagara Falls.

San Francisco, Dec. 10.—Miss Millie Viola, formerly an actress, but now an aeronaut, says she has traveled from Australia to the United States for the purpose of going over the Niagara Falls in a barrel. To make the feat more difficult, she says she will have the barrel dropped from a balloon. Miss Viola arrived on the last steamer, but she cannot go over the falls until the ice melts. She will complete her journey to Niagara by easy stages.

ITS THIRD WEEK.

Strike of Housesmiths Grows Stronger Every Day.

New York, Dec. 10.—Yesterday closed the third week of the housesmiths' strike and added 400 men to the ranks of the strikers. Yesterday morning sympathetic strikes were begun by the plasterers, laborers, elevator constructors, painters, carpenters and electric wire men employed on a number of buildings now in course of construction. Four hundred men all told went out.

A. H. ANDREWS & CO. FAILED.

The Well Known Chicago Concern in the Sheriff's Hands.

Chicago, Dec. 5.—The sheriff to-day took possession of the store and factory of A. H. Andrews & Co., the well known furniture manufacturers of this city. Judgment for $25,700 was entered by the Globe National bank. It is understood that the liabilities will reach $250,000, and that the assets are believed to be sufficient to cover them.

Adopted the Constitution.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 5.—The constitutional convention adjourned sine die last night at 10 o'clock. On the final adoption of the constitution the vote stood 118 to 7, all the negro delegates voting against it on account of the suffrage article, and two white delegates for the indefinite reasons that some parts of the constitution they considered to be unwise.

They Revel in Gold.

Salida, Col., Dec. 5.—The strike of gold here has become a certainty. It is estimated that at least 300 people are in the hills, and that all available land in the vicinity of the strike has been staked off. Assays runs from $5 to $25 at the grass roots.

New York—L. Von Hofman & Co. say they expect to ship gold to Europe tomorrow and possibly on Thursday also.

Money, Crops, Trade.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

Weekly Review of Business Shows Sluggishness.

New York, Dec. 7.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

Business is still sluggish, as if gorged by excessive indulgence in the appetite for buying when prices were advancing. In nearly every branch stocks distributed to consumers stand in the way of new orders, and competitors of a producing force largely exceeding the present demand puts down prices, that decline retarding purchases yet more. After the holidays men look for a larger demand. For the present the springs of new business are running low, but enough is doing on old orders to keep most of the works employed in part and a good proportion fully. Financial influences have not hindered, and rarely has the opening of a session of Congress affected business so little.

Wheat has advanced about a cent for the week, though Western receipts have been 7,014,911 bushels, against 3,727,788 last year, and Atlanta exports, flour included, again exceed last year's 2,226,092, against 1,859,737 bushels. The best Western estimates of the crop have been raised again. Corn moves from farms less freely than a year ago, the low prices hindering, but exports were 1,293,774 bushels, against 178,513 last year. Cotton has been weak again, declining a quarter for the week, and the January option 27 points. The quantity which has come into sight, 35 per cent less than last year to date, does not yet indicate a yield 30 or 37 per cent smaller, as many predict, though the recent movement is very slow. Northern spinners have taken about a third less than last year. Wool has been slightly strengthened by the London sales, but the average of quotations by Coates Brothers is only a tenth of 1 per cent higher. Sales continue large at 6,463,100 pounds for the week, of which 60 per cent was foreign. Manufacturers have much machinery idle at present, and orders thus far are not encouraging.

Failures in the United States 354 as against 319 and 92 in Canada as against the same week last year.

Bradstreet on Finance.

New York, Dec. 7.—Bradstreet's Review says: "Congress has met, and the President's message is published. The latter document agreed with previous anticipations, but as no legislative action is probable till after the 1st of January, the disposition in speculative circles is to wait.

"Chicago Gas, after being depressed on adverse legislation, enjoyed a quick rally due to decision in favor of the consolidation, while American tobacco and United States leather were the objects of more or less manipulative attention. The railroad share list on the whole was neglected and to a certain extent irregular in its course. The return of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad to a half yearly dividend declared rate of 2 1-2 per cent, 1 per cent higher than the dividend declared on the stock six months ago, seemed to lift the bid effect. Some attention was paid to the very favorable returns of the St. Paul, while the business of the Rock Island was sufficiently poor to have a bearish influence. Very little indeed was done in other portions of the stock list. Leading interests seem inclined to wait till there is some definite knowledge in regard to the attitude of Congress toward the currency complications. Europe was also very inactive, though it would seem that the idea of the failure of Congress to act on the currency and the possibility of a revived agitation of the tariff questions has had an unfavorable effect on the standing of American securities abroad. The exchange market was very dull all week, and scarcely counted as a factor in speculation, though the shipment of $3,100,000 of gold to Europe had a slightly unfavorable influence at the close of the week."

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., Dec. 10.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	Dec. 10.	Dec. 3.
U. S. 4's (new), coupon	120¾	120½
U. S. 4's (new), registered	120¾	120¾
U. S. 5's, coupons	114¾	114¾
U. S. 5's, registered	114¾	114¾
U. S. 4's, coupons	111¾	111¾
U. S. 4's, registered	110¾	110½
U. S. 2's, registered	97	97
Pacific 6's of '95	99	99

Condition of the Stock Market in New York This Afternoon.

Trade in wheat opened rather weak this forenoon on Europe failing to respond to the advance here yesterday, and indifferent cables. There was no strong influences. Cables at the close showed more strength, and prices steadied a trifle from the lowest point. The receipts in the Northwest continue large, and predictions about the government report are of but little value.

Corn sold light. There was no special feature in the trade. At Chicago December corn opened at 26 1-8c, and eased to 25 7-8c; January, 26 1-8c, 26 3-8c, then 26 7-8c nominal; May, 29c, close, 28 3-4c. At New York December corn opened at 35c, and closed at 35c nominal; May, 35 1-4c bid, close, 35 1-8c asked.

Prices of wheat to-day:

	Opened	Highest	Lowest	Close
Dec.				
Toledo	67¾	67¾	67	67
Chicago	nom.	nom.	66¾	66¾
New York	67¼	67¾	67¼	67¾
St. Louis	68¾	68¾	68¼	68¼

May wheat, 62¾c; close, 63c asked. At New York May wheat opened at 68c and closed at 68½c asked.

Receipts in the Northwest to-day: Wheat, 683,561 bu. with 1,239 cars on track; on track same day last year, 753 cars.

Export clearances to-day: Wheat, 69,275 bu.; flour, 37,213 bbls.; or wheat and flour as wheat, 226,774 bu.

Cronenberg & King received the following: The government report will be out at 4 p. m. and will give a true and condition of winter wheat and average farm prices of different crops. It is anticipated the condition will be somewhere around 85 and acreage 95 to 97 per cent over last summer's at harvest and about the same as last December. The point out is that area of winter wheat will be 102. The condition 90. The figures do not seem reasonable and in all likelihood the point is no good.

Bartlett, Frazer & Co. wire their representative, E. D. Draper, to-day: Crops in foreign countries in France, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Spain and Russia crop have made a fair start. About the crop of Argentine there is a good deal of conflicting evidence. Latest cables report very conflicting news. Report very favorable weather in important province of Santa Fe but in lesser District of Columbia, our agent telegraphs that the wheat crop has been injured by hail storms. Indian reports not very favorable, rain being badly wanted. Austrian crop is bound to be a short one, and best authorities are of opinion that there will be no shipments to European market next season.

Primary receipts to-day: Wheat, 1,079,600 bushels; same day last year, 615,000 bushels. Receipts of corn, 368,316.

Liverpool wheat 1 farthing up; Paris wheat 15c higher; Berlin wheat 1-4@1-2 mark up.

Bradstreet's shows the world's visible decrease at 475,000 bushels.

East of Rockies wheat decreased 237,000 bushels.

Pork at Chicago for December, $7.75 nominal; January, $8.55; close, $8.45.

Estimates at Chicago for to-morrow: Wheat, cars, 125; corn, 210; oats, 135.

Oats at Chicago for December, 17c bid.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Lower.

At the close to-day at the local exchange, cash and December wheat was 3-4c and May 7-8c lower. Trade dull and prices steady on last transactions.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 67 1-4c, then 67c; No. 3 soft red, 65c.

December wheat, 67 1-4c, then 67c; May, 69 5-8c, and to close, 69 1-8c.

Corn—Dull, Steady.

Corn sold light, prices steady. No. 2 mixed, 28c; No. 3 corn, 27c; No. 2 yellow, 28c.

Oats fairly active, easy; No. 2 mixed, 19c; No. 2 white, 20c; No. 2 May, 21¼@21½c less price to close.

Rye dull; No. 2, 38c.

Clover seed active and 2½@ lower; prime cash and December, $4.42½; February and March, $4.50; No. 2 seed, $4.25; rejected seed, $3.30; receipts, 713; shipments, 196.

F. N. Quale reports street prices: No 2 soft red white, 62c; No. 2 white, 62c. Oats, mixed,